



Havers rejects MI5 film charges

By James Naughtie, Political Correspondent

No-one will be prosecuted under the Official Secrets Act for appearing in the banned channel 4 documentary on telephone-tapping by the security service, MI5, the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, said last night.

His announcement came as Labour MPs planned parliamentary protests for today designed to block the progress of the interception of Communications Bill, which would regulate telephone tapping.

They argue that they must first have time to study the report by Lord Bridge, the chairman of the Security Commission, into the allegations of unauthorised surveillance made in the film, MI5's Official Secrets.

Sir Michael said the decision not to prosecute was not a confirmation or a denial of the specific allegations in the film.

Parliament, page 5

In which Ms Cathy Maister, a former MI5 employee, claimed there had been improper telephone tapping of CND and trade union activists.

Ministers with experience of security have been arguing that the Government should avoid a court case on the allegations because such a prosecution would involve discussions of MI5 operations which would be counter-productive.

The decision not to proceed is an embarrassment for the Government, since it argues that such public discussion of security operations is wrong.

Negotiations between the Government and the Opposition last night failed to resolve the dispute over the debate, which Labour wants postponed.

Ministers have tried to meet objections by agreeing that all MPs should see the report of



"I had to get rid of the cage - it hindered everything," says Sir Michael.

Lord Bridge, chairman of the Security Commission, into allegations of improper telephone tapping, but have refused to postpone the interception of Communications Bill.

It appeared last night that efforts would be made to stop proceedings this afternoon by arguing that the Government is proceeding hastily with a bill directly related to the context of Lord Bridge's report.

It is understood that the result of his inquiry, which was being studied by the Prime Minister last night, might be of acting beyond authorisations given by ministers for individual telephone taps.

It will not, however, reveal details of individual surveillance, and will therefore be criticised by the Opposition.

Mr. Geoffrey Kaufman, the shadow home secretary, said last night: "The only question about the report is whether it is going to be a full whitewash job or just a single case."

Mr. John Birt, leader of the Commons, faced with furious protests by senior Labour MPs yesterday that they were going to have too little time to study the report before the second reading of the bill, responded by saying it would be given to all MPs this morning.

But it is clear that the row over the operations of MI5, particularly in relation to telephone tapping, is going to go on.

The proposal in the bill to set up a tribunal to hear complaints about unauthorised surveillance will not be enough to satisfy those troubled by the

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Miners march back behind lodge banners and brass bands but Kent's flying pickets stem tide in two coalfields

No return by 30,000 amnesty strikers

By Keith Harper, Labour Editor

The pit strike refused to die yesterday although thousands of miners obeyed their national conference call to return to work proudly stepping out with their banners in time to the tune of their brass bands.

After what was supposed to be the first full day's work for nearly a year, the National Coal Board announced that 180,000 miners or 85 per cent of its labour force reported for duty, leaving nearly 30,000 still on strike to achieve an amnesty for miners sacked during the strike.

The worst affected areas were in Yorkshire where 50 per cent of the workforce stayed out and 16 pits were not operating. Scotland where 56 per cent or 5,500 miners stayed away, and Kent, where 2,000 miners at three pits remained almost solidly on strike.

While the national picture yesterday was confused, the board expects it to improve as the week goes by.

Apart from the pits not operating individual collieries throughout the country were affected by disputes.

Mr Michael Easton, the NCB spokesman, said last night that the board was gratified that such a large percentage of miners had returned to work.

He said that the board was aware that some miners were still on strike, but that they were largely ignored. The first coal to be produced in

South Wales for 12 months was cut at Cynheidre, near Llanelli.

The second factor was that Scottish miners were divided on a decision by their delegates on Monday instructing them to stay out until an amnesty was agreed.

But rank and file criticism of the decision was so strong that it is almost certain to be overturned at a special conference today.

Local management and NUM officials, yesterday confirmed the task of sifting through the list of people who have committed petty offences during the dispute and who are likely to be reinstated.

But at NCB headquarters and in government circles, however, the tough line against granting a general amnesty was maintained.

In the Commons the Prime Minister ruled out any amnesty for strikers sacked for serious crimes. Mrs Thatcher said: "They must face the consequences."

She told MPs at question time that criminal acts had been committed during the dispute against both person and the property of working miners, and against the NCB property.

Mrs Thatcher claimed to have the support of Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, on this issue, but said that the dispute against both person and the property of working miners, and against the NCB property.

Mr Kinnock appeared to be heartened by yesterday's events. He deplored the lack of progress in the dispute, but said that he had been no agreement.

He said that he was aware that some miners were still on strike, but that they were largely ignored. The first coal to be produced in



THE ROAD BACK: Miners and their supporters marching to Mardy Colliery, Rhondda, for the return to work. Picture by John Barnes

Defiance and pride as Mardy goes back

By Paul Hovland

THE MEN of Mardy colliery — the last pit in the Rhondda Valley, and traditionally the most militant in the South Wales coalfield — yesterday staged an emotional finale to their year-long struggle.

Church bells ringing in the high street signalled the end of the strike in the village dubbed Little Moscow, after previous epic battles. With dawn breaking, the men began the one mile walk up the hill to the pit and their "dignified return" under the glare of television arc lights.

The Mardy, Ferrdale and Tylersdown colliery brass band played as the 1,000 miners and supporters marched along the terraced streets, with banners waving and heads held high.

Nurses, and other health workers joined CND supporters and delegations from Oxford and Birmingham, whose support groups had raised more than £100,000 and food to help sustain the miners' families.

Mardy women's support group formed a guard of honour to applaud the 300 men entering the colliery for the day shift. Mr Arfon

Evans, the lodge chairman, who had travelled throughout Europe arguing the miners' cause, climbed on to the roof of the pit head baths to deliver his final speech of the strike.

"This solidarity testifies why we came out on strike: to defend our pits and our communities," he said. "This expression here this morning is a warning to the NCB that 'you will not walk all over us'."

To loud cheers, Mr Evans added: "The miners have not come back on their knees, they are not crawling back to work."

A young miner's wife was helped on to the roof to deliver her defiant message. "They may think they have beaten us but this morning has shown that they haven't beaten us at all. The women will never give in. We are as strong now as we were 12 months ago. I have a message for Mrs Thatcher — she ain't seen nothing yet."

In a gesture of reconciliation, the colliery under-manager Mr Terry Symons, shouted "I'm glad to see you back, all of you." He offered a friendly word and handshake as the men, clutching carrier bags of tea

and sandwiches, slowly filed into work.

All the Mardy miners had remained loyal to the strike and their solidarity, with only a token picket mounted at the pit, had symbolised the unity in the coalfield. Yesterday the talk was of having to go back to preserve the union. The fight to save pits and get sacked miners reinstated would continue.

The colliery was besieged by the media and Mr Evans timed the march to ensure maximum coverage in the

Lean TV men chew BBC fat

By Peter Fiddick

THE BBC director-general, Mr Alasdair Milne, met leading members of the Independent Programme Producers' Association for lunch yesterday, to discuss whether the newest and leanest sector of British television could help cut its costs.

But he said later: "We have been discussing their relative costs, and I am not at all convinced of the truth — if it is the truth that their costs are very much lower than ours."

More formal discussions between the BBC and Channel 4 programme makers will continue, however, in an effort to

Voucher plan spells end to NHS glasses

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

National Health Service spectacles will soon be available only from private companies selling them through retail stores and opticians.

As part of its scheme to stop supplying lenses and frames, the Department of Health and Social Security is introducing a new voucher system for the cheapest available spectacles to be bought for children and the poor.

The vouchers will be the first issued for the supply of goods by the department, which confirmed yesterday

that ministers were determined to privatise the whole optical service.

Regulations, aimed at saving £17 million on optical provision were laid before Parliament yesterday. When they come into force on April 1, they will be accompanied by swingeing increases in the cost of contact lenses and special contact lenses available on hospital prescriptions.

A special contract lens will increase in price from £18.80 to £20 and for two pairs of contact lenses from just over £20 to £30.

These prices will remain in force during the transitional

period that NHS spectacles will continue to be available.

From April 1, the only people able to obtain NHS spectacles will be children under 16; students under 19; social security claimants and those who pass a means test.

They will get them free or at a reduced rate.

A new optical test will be introduced for people who require complex lenses. If their sight is sufficiently bad they will qualify for NHS glasses at the new increased prices.

A pair of complex lenses at present available for £11.75 will cost £29; complex bifocal

lenses will cost £50 and simple bifocal lenses £28.

The price increases were condemned last night by the Royal National Institute for the Blind whose director-general, Mr Ian Bruce, said: "It is unjust and against NHS principles that those who need glasses most should be so financially penalised."

From next Monday the ban on registered opticians advertising their services will be lifted. At present unqualified opticians have advertising monopoly because the Privy Council failed to amend the regulations. This omission has now been rectified.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Passes defence

CAMBRIDGESHIRE police yesterday defended their plan to issue identity passes to residents living near the proposed cruise missile base at Molesworth. Page 3; Leader comment, page 10.

Peace talks

CENTRAL American countries are preparing to resume talks after a month of serious setbacks to peace efforts. Page 6.

Car men goaled

TWO former Rolls-Royce employees were goaled yesterday for stealing engine components worth more than £2 million. Page 4.

Newry charges

A YOUTH appeared in court yesterday accused of murdering three of the nine police officers who died in the IRA mortar attack on Newry police station. Page 2.

Exchange rules

THE Stock Exchange Council yesterday finally agreed to recommend to its members new membership rules on holding shares in the market. Page 21.

Airbus fears

UNION problems within the US airline Pan American have raised doubts about a £2 billion aircraft order in which Britain has a multi-million pound share. Back page.

The weather

DRY and sunny. Details back page.

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Glasgow	25p	Switzerland	100p

Tories four points ahead of Labour

By Martin Linton

The Conservatives were back in a four-point lead over Labour yesterday in a Mori poll for the London Standard which seems likely to be more dependable than a Mori poll at the weekend which put the Labour Party in a two-point lead.

The figures in the latest poll are Conservative 39, Labour 35, Alliance 24. As well as being more recent, they are based on a larger interviewing sample and a longer interview period than the earlier poll for Weekend World which gave Labour 40, Conservative 38 and Alliance 19.

The poll still represents a sharp improvement for the Labour Party since the previous month, cutting the Conservative lead from 8 per cent to 4 per cent and putting them back within striking distance of the Government.

The number satisfied with

the way Mrs Thatcher is doing her job is down three points to 41 per cent and with Mr Kinnock it is down from 30 to 28 per cent. The number who are dissatisfied has risen to 53 per cent for both giving a net drop of 7 per cent for Mrs Thatcher and 9 per cent for Mr Kinnock.

Public satisfaction with the way Mr David Steel and Dr David Owen are doing their job as party leaders is far higher at 49 per cent and 46 per cent respectively and they will be relieved that the new poll has brought the Alliance up from 19 to 24 per cent, but this is still below their general election figure of 26 per cent.

The first Mori poll was based on a sample of 1,096 interviewed between February 12 and 13. The latest one was based on a sample of 1,389 interviewed between February 19 and 24.

High-fliers' expenses claims shot down

From Michael White in Washington

Boeing Aerospace Company yesterday confirmed that it was withdrawing nearly half of its \$137,000 bill for direct contributions to American politicians' campaign funds which it had "inadvertently" submitted to the Pentagon for payment by the US taxpayer.

In an attempt to retain its dignity, the company insisted that the \$1,800 it spent on a dinner for the Vice-President, Mr George Bush, was "legitimate" community-related expenses for which it still expects reimbursement.

The Pentagon's auditors had challenged a variety of the company's 1982 bills including \$500 worth of tickets for a Boy Scout golf tournament and

a donation to the Salvation Army.

It was small consolation for Boeing, as its spokesmen explained, away "book-keeping errors" and justified charging for a campaign against a local food tax (because the tax would have hit Boeing workers), to know that they were not alone in their

in the cut-throat battle between the Pentagon and Congress about the administration's vast and growing military budget, the big millitary contractors are fair game for which it still expects reimbursement.

Last week it was the turn of the Justice Department, the Securities and Exchange Commission and inevitably, the taxmen. They range from modest

peccadilloes like charging the Pentagon \$155 for housing an executive's dog in kennels during a business conference, to a cover-up of the gift of earrings costing \$1,125 to an admiral's wife and on to serious money.

In one case, recently reported, General Dynamics attempted to charge the Pentagon \$100 million for the cost of its own errors in building nuclear submarines, on the grounds that the Government insured it against faulty workmanship.

There is broad consent that the regulations governing legitimate costs are vague. Last year, Pentagon auditors reported that defence contractors incurred \$140 million in public relations costs, and this year they are challenging \$14.9 million worth, including \$4.6

million from General Dynamics and \$4.5 million from Rockwell International.

Feelings are running especially high at present because the \$813 billion Pentagon budget proposed for 1986 contrasts sharply with severe domestic cuts, and even hawkish congressmen are out for blood.

They know that their constituents are now well aware that the Pentagon paid \$800 for a screwdriver, \$7,000 for coffee pots and, most recently, \$640 for a lavatory seat, all apparently so over-designed that they can perform their modest functions in all circumstances, short of a direct hit from an SS-20.

A protest meeting of near-bankrupt farmers hardly ever occurs now without a bitter reference to the lavatory seat.

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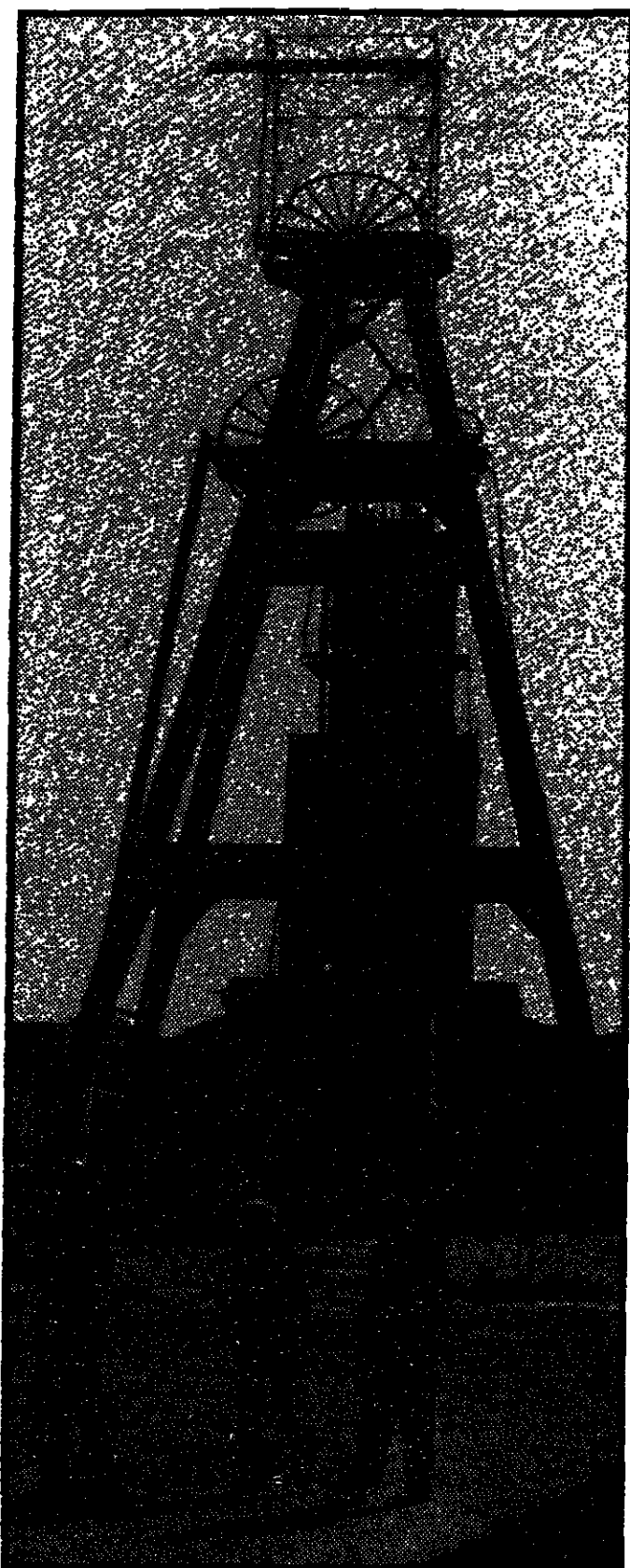


Pickets still hold sway as year-old dispute refuses to die

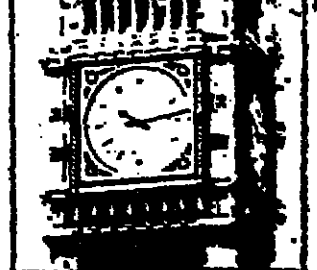
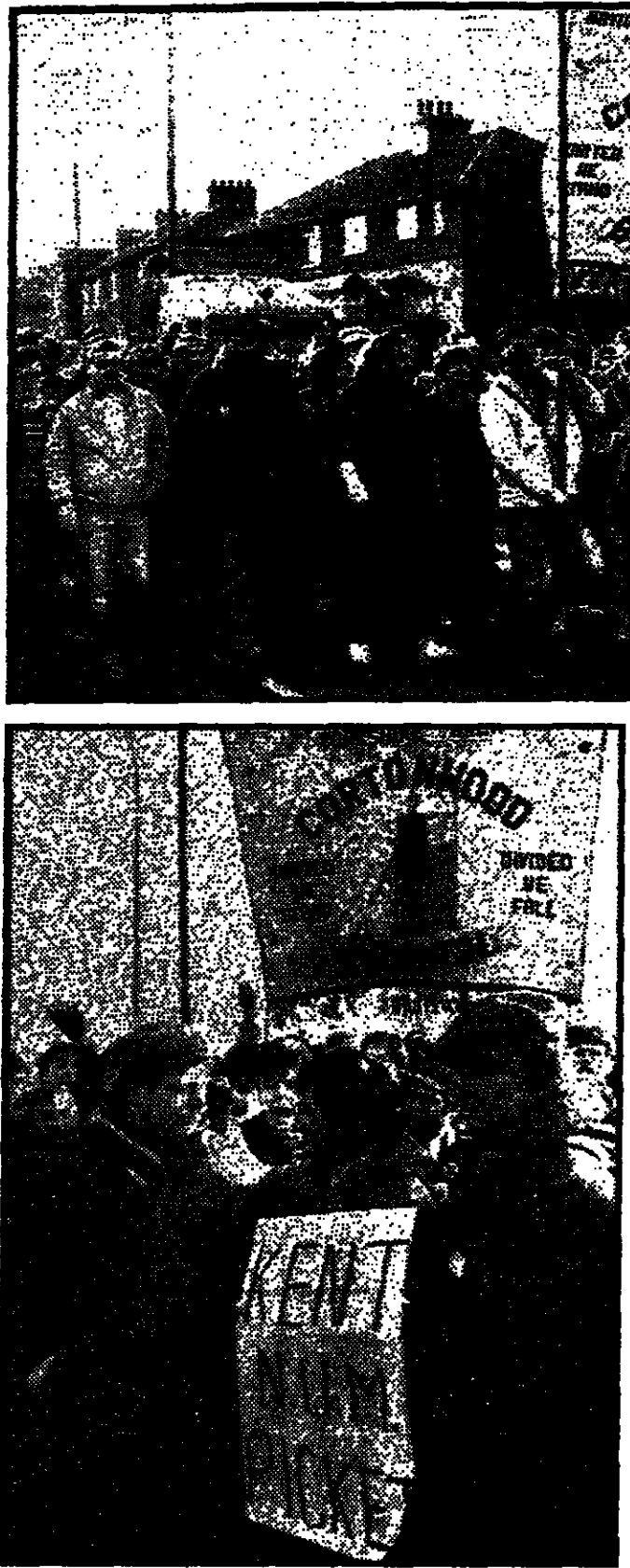
Jean Stead and Patrick Wintour look at the coalfields which are still out

David Hearst and John Ezard watch the confused return in Yorkshire

Pictures by Don McPhee and E. Hamilton West



Peaceful picket outside Snowdown, while striking Kent miners are away stopping the return at Cortonwood



David McKie

Turning off the taps of triumph

PETER Walker, on Monday had done all he could to keep the rejoicing under wraps. Yesterday it was the Prime Minister's turn to face the Commons for the first time since the apparent vindication of her long-held strategy with the near collapse of the miners' strike. Would she, could she, hit the same sombre and self-effacing note?

Sir John Biggs-Davison, the senior Conservative backbencher from Epping Forest, nudged her in neatly with the opening question. Talk of victors and vanquished, he said, would be out of place. The only victory which counted now would be the creation of a modern mining industry selling at competitive prices.

Mrs Thatcher could hardly have agreed more vigorously if she'd drafted the question herself (as some old cynics slightly suspected she had). If she was at any point

The day in politics, page 3

tempted yesterday to rub the NUM's nose in the weekend's retreat, she did not through her 15 minutes at the despatch box without betraying a flicker of it.

Mostly, Labour pursued her with demands for an amnesty, which the Prime Minister fiercely rejected.

"You are a wicked woman," Eric Heffer (Labour, Bolton, Walsley) told her. Yet even Mrs Thatcher was pushed to take first place in Labour's demagoguery yesterday while the NCB Area Director for Scotland, Albert Wheeler, was in sight. Neil Douglas (Dumfriesshire, W.) wanted Mrs Thatcher to intervene to ensure that the NCB's Scotland did not subscribe to the "Pontius Pilate school of management."

And Gordon Brown (Dumfriesshire, W.) wanted an emergency debate to discuss the "arbitrary dismissal" of 195 Scottish miners by Mr Wheeler's dicta. The Speaker, like Mrs Thatcher before him, was not to be persuaded.

Still, given the sense of history which seemed to have swamped the place on Monday, it was a fairly flat occasion. There was a row which followed over the Government's insistence on going ahead with the debate due today, on its Interception of Communications Bill.

Labour's Gerald Kaufman said the Government had taken an undertaking to give MPs time to study Lord Bridge's report before getting to work on the Bill. Mrs Thatcher, as she'd disclosed at Question Time, had got her copy already and was planning an evening of Bridge. The rest of the House, Mr Kaufman complained, was denied that privilege.

Mr Kaufman thought he spotted a glimmer of sympathy in the Speaker's eyes after he'd suggested that the Leader of the House, who was there, should intervene. "I hope my facial expression betrays my sympathy," Mr Weatherill told him. "I have my private thoughts, but I don't express them." Indeed, he's not even, he told us, the chairing of the oak put them in his autobiography.

Mr Biffen did surface in the end, but only to promise they'd have the report this morning. More will be heard of all this today.

Later the House faced yet another evening with the Water (Floods) Bill, which has produced some of the most determined backbench obstruction of the session. Strictly speaking this is not a backbench revolt, as Conservative MPs have been given a free vote. But the whips are on duty, and it's been inspiring to see what a substantial swathe of the payroll vote has been choosing to exercise its free will in favour of the legislation.

Some opponents think a vote on the bill would damage their health, others that its compulsory application will damage their civil liberties. But few on the Opposition benches share that apprehension.

Mostly, they regard the whole agitation as somewhat irrelevant and a waste of time. In other words, as large numbers of Tory MPs seem to see the threat to civil liberties embodied in the allegations about state surveillance to which Westminster turns today.

Sacked men urge return

THE MOST compelling reason for the Scottish executive of the National Union of Mineworkers recalling the coalfield's delegates to reverse their decision to stay on strike is that sacked miners are themselves advising such a course.

It was the demand for an amnesty for dismissed strikers that led delegates to vote 7 to 6 on Monday for a continuation of the strike into a second year.

In any case, although there was widespread respect for Monday's decision the coal board reported over 700 going back in the Scottish coalfield yesterday with an almost 100 per cent turnout in Ayrshire.

Monday's delegate conference was followed by pit meetings and a meeting of all the sacked miners. The sacked men agreed that their workmates should be encouraged to return.

"We all agreed that the most important thing is to re-establish the union and get it back to normal," one said at Monktonhall Colliery, Lough.

The sacked men say they will establish themselves as a campaigning group to gain individual amnesties and hope to link up with the rest of the 700 men sacked throughout Britain.

At Monktonhall Colliery, which has recently seen scenes of the most bitter divisions between working and striking miners, the picket line was quiet in the dawn yesterday.

Several workers turned back at the picket line and were cheered.

Rab Amos, speaking for the strike committee told them: "We want to thank you for your support. But now we think it is better if we in the pits go back to work and carry on the campaign for those sacked."

"They have severe debts, and now the strike is over everyone is going to be on their backs for the money they owe. They are going to need help from our wages."

Mr Eric Clarke, general secretary of the Scottish NUM, yesterday demanded a public inquiry into the management of the Scottish coalfield.

Mr Albert Wheeler, the area director, has refused to consider any of Scotland's 700 sacked miners for an amnesty and yesterday he was reported in this by Mr Walker, the Energy

Secretary of State. Mr Clarke accused the "selective sacking" of those who were only doing what had a right to do — go on the picket line.

Jean Stead

Kent's pressure to revive strike

"WE'RE trying to resurrect this strike, not just to win an amnesty for the 700 sacked miners, but also to force the board to negotiate with the national union," Mr Terry Burkett, a branch committee man at Betteshanger colliery in Kent, said yesterday.

Mr Burkett spent until just before midnight at the Kent NUM's tiny office on Monday night, answering calls from Yorkshire, Lancashire and Wales for the Kent miners to send pickets to their pits.

Mr Burkett sent about 30 men in about seven cars to eight pits in Yorkshire. Another four cars went to South Wales. Mr Burkett says he has had calls from five other collieries in Yorkshire asking for more pickets.

The decision of the militant Kent coalfield to send pickets appears to have been made unofficially. The union's president, Mr Arthur Scargill, rang the Kent office in Dover yesterday, to find out the meaning of it all.

The Kent miners on Monday voted to stay on strike for up to two more weeks, in an attempt to win the reinstatement of 42 miners dismissed in the area.

The decision appears to have been largely accepted by the rank and file Kent miners. At Kilmanstone, 161 men are at work out of 800, at Betteshanger 100 of 1,050.

MR CHARLES McLACHLAN, right, who commanded the national reporting centre which co-ordinated picketing of the miners' strike was honoured by the Queen yesterday.

Mr McLachlan, chief constable of Nottinghamshire, was invested as a CBE.

The Queen talked to me about the police service," he said. "I told her that last year was a wasted one as far as the police service was concerned."

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Jean Stead

Marchers' pitstops prove loyalty

THE YORKSHIRE miners' return to work yesterday became a day of demonstration by strikers determined to prove loyalty to their union and their will to fight on.

The National Coal Board stopped counting the number of miners returning to work as one demonstration after another either turned round at the pit gates, refusing to cross picket lines mounted by Kent miners, or entered the pit only to make a triumphant tour past the reception area and march out again, parading their banners.

Only 26 of the Yorkshire area's 53 pits had returned to "some kind of normality," said the coal board. "It seemed to us that the vast majority of men have used it as a day of demonstration and reinstated the long 'fan' which has run 34 miners to work out of a workforce of 1,300 during the strike."

One of the few men who arrived uncertain whether there was an agreed return to work, James Gillespie, joined the picket line despite his debts of £1,300.

"After a year out I am not going to muck it up for one day," he said. On the first anniversary of the Yorkshire strike which precipitated the national dispute, Armthorpe remained 98 per cent solid — this time over the issue of sacked miners.

Alan Palin, who took over the picket from his father later said: "It looks as if we could be out for a while. Cancellation of the return to work followed a branch meeting on Monday."

night attended by more than two-thirds of the membership. It voted by a four-fifths majority on a show of hands to accept a branch committee recommendation to stay out until 12 men sacked for what management says were serious offences, are reinstated.

There were no speakers against the decision and the mood in the miners' club and on picket lines was happier than it has been in the 28 hours since the conference decision.

Many families had to put their dreams of the first full supermarket trolley for 12 months into abeyance, and others faced car insurance, road tax and MOT bills.

The NUM branch secretary, Mr Jimmy Miller, said the colliery management was taking a "caustic attitude" over reinstatement.

The first inkling of a hard-line policy is regarded as the announcement that Markham Main canteen would in

very much alive among the 1,000 strikers who marched through the streets of Knottingley to the gates of Kellingley colliery. They chanted: "Arthur Scargill we'll support you evermore" as they passed the church, and then the column filed by the local police station, miners hissed and booed.

The marchers, cheered by hydrocarbon plant, emphasised the community's lasting divisions by roaring approval of workers who had supported them during the last 12 months and screaming "scab" at a garage owner who had not.

Two contractors who attempted to deliver coal during the demonstration had their lorries stoned. The National Union of Mine workers' protest was cheered and clapped through the pit gate by more than 200 pit deputies striking in protest over the proposed transfer of

four former NUM members who had crossed picket lines to work as deputies during the strike.

Only 20 of the 220 members of Nacods worked during the strike at Kellingley, the only pit in the country to have this level of support from deputies.

Nacods is officially in dispute with the Kellingley management but is allowing NUM members to cross its picket line to clock on and receive a day's pay. Most of those who return will not be allowed down the pit without supervision as long as the deputies are on strike.

The demonstration wound its way around the pit car park with miners yelling "scab" whenever they encountered a working colliery.

With some of the demonstrators due to clock on for the night shift a few hours later, it seemed that relations in the pit were not

going to be as harmonious as the Coal Board claimed. Police kept at a discreet distance, with miners in no mood to tolerate further confrontations.

Back at Kellingley miners' welfare club, strikers received their last £5 payments from the strike fund. Many were preparing to go back on today's morning shift.

However, few said they were prepared to cross NUM picket lines mounted by Kent men and with indications that miners were coming from Scotland to picket the Yorkshire coalfield, many said they would stay away until Monday to allow the situation to settle down.

One miner said: "This fight is far from over. We showed them today and this is nothing compared to what is going to happen down the pit."

David Hearst

Police greeted by familiar dawn chorus

THE BLACKBIRD that has begun singing from a sapling in the garden of 64 Doncaster Road, Armthorpe, cheek by jowl with Markham Main colliery, was joined yesterday by the dawn chorus of Sunday's NUM special conference — by the ritual human dawn chorus of a picket line when the first three police coaches arrived: "Come on down, you fascist bastards!"

Some 40 policemen closed and cordoned the wide colliery entrance and one pavement to, according to the officer in charge, ensure that the peace is kept and that anyone who wants to come back to work today can do so.

The picket leader, Fred Palin, a vigorous but prematurely white-haired man leaning on a stick, warned his miners: "The police say any stone-throwers will be taken right off. Remember you are not to kill people."

But the police need hardly have bothered. No extra

night attended by more than two-thirds of the membership. It voted by a four-fifths majority on a show of hands to accept a branch committee recommendation to stay out until 12 men sacked for what management says were serious offences, are reinstated.

There were no speakers against the decision and the mood in the miners' club and on picket lines was happier than it has been in the 28 hours since the conference decision.

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The first inkling of a hard-line policy is regarded as the announcement that Markham Main canteen would in

future close during the night when 60 miners are normally working.

Before the dispute the militant Armthorpe workforce went on a successful strike to get night refreshment facilities. Another men were an initial decision by another colliery which resumed work yesterday 30 minutes drive from Armthorpe, to allocate different day shifts to two Armthorpe men who have travelled into work together for a number of years.

One man has no transport and feared he faced the loss of a job without a lift. But after protests yesterday, the colliery reached a bureaucratic solution.

It put the two men on the same shift — a night shift. This meant they had to go home and travel to work again last night, but it was hardly the "Thatcher's revenge" which so many miners have feared.

John Ezard

Scholar of cold war

OBITUARY

Professor Frederick S. Northedge, who held the chair of international relations at the LSE for 17 years, has died in London. He was 66. He was a quiet, unassuming man, a quiet iconoclast whose seminal works, *The Troubled Giant* and *Dog and Power*, influenced not only the graduate students who came to study under him, but policy makers in Whitehall and Westminster as well.

He was born in Derbyshire and went to Oxford on a scholarship that took him to Merton College to read classics. But it was the onset

of the cold war in the 1940s that prompted him to change disciplines and to enter the field of international relations in which he was to become a world authority.

His textbook on this field has now become one of the standard works in western universities. It sets out the contradictory themes of idealism and realism which came through so strongly in the lectures.

He was a concerned and compassionate man who wanted to see movement toward détente in the nuclear stalemate, but he was also the careful, detached scholar who rigidly excluded so much as a whiff of party politics from his lectures and writings.

Police raid a mistake

A CRIPPLED war veteran was ordered out of bed at gunpoint yesterday by police who smashed their way into his house with sledgehammers by mistake.

Mr Fred Summers, aged 65, a widower who lost a leg in Burma in the second world war, said he was ordered out of bed, "but when they saw I had only one leg they realised they'd got the wrong man."

The officers were taking part in a series of raids in connection with a robbery, but had got the wrong address.

A police inspector later went back to the house to apologise.

Hand vote to elect Basnett successor

By John Ardill
Labour Correspondent

The General Municipal and Boilermakers' Union is to replace its retiring general secretary, Mr David Basnett, from January 1, its executive decided yesterday. Mr Basnett will stay on until early April to hand over the reins.

Balloting will be by show of hands at the union's 2,900 branches during the summer and the result will be declared at Blackpool on August 31, the eve of the TUC congress. The timing means the election is not caught by the 1984 Trade Union Act which requires elections to governing bodies after the next October, to be by secret individual ballot.

Under GMB rules the majority vote at each branch commits the whole branch block vote. Branch membership ranges from 20 to about 7,500.

This is a system, which has been democratically by the membership, said Mr Basnett. It is based on the votes of activists in the union. "It's an issue of representative democracy. We believe in representative democracy not referendum democracy. The Tories believe in referendum democracy for everyone else and representative democracy for themselves."

The union will seek nominations between March 29 and May 10 but balloting will not start until June 20, after the union's conference.

There was some concern that the conference would be

come part of the election procedure but it's been that for the last five years so it won't make any difference," said Mr Basnett.

Nominations will be by branches only, the executive decided. This is something of a rebuke to the northern region secretary, Mr Tom Burdison, who has already declared his nomination by the regional council. Two others known to be seeking nomination are Mr John Edmunds, the public services national officer, and Mr David Warburton, the chemicals national officer.

The executive yesterday suspended its authorisation of industrial action by local authority manual workers following an improved pay offer last week.

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Siamese twins die after operation

By Andrew Veitch,
Medical Correspondent

Siamese twin boys born in Leeds on Monday, died yesterday after an attempt to separate them failed. The boys were born hugging each other, sharing one liver and one heart.

The condition of the weaker of the Siamese twins, girls separated at Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, earlier this week worsened yesterday. But her sister was reported to have improved.

The odds against two sets of Siamese twins being born within three days in Britain are immense.

The twin boys were born at St James's Hospital, Leeds, to a mother who has two other children. She was aware the twins were joined but decided to continue with the pregnancy. A surgeon said following the birth "They were literally hugging each other with their arms round each other."

Surgeons led by Mr Duncan Walker at the city's Killinbeck Hospital attempted to separate them. They had a severe congenital heart defect which proved impossible to overcome and they both died.

The twin girls, born on Friday at Rush Green Hospital, Romford, Essex, were joined at the chest and abdomen. There were two in the same cavity, and one was severely malformed. Their livers were joined by a bridge of tissue, and they shared the upper part of the small bowel.

A Great Ormond Street spokesman said yesterday: "The condition of the baby with the normal heart has improved. The condition of the baby with the heart defect is giving cause for concern. Her kidneys are unable to cope."

Doctors were last night using a technique called haemodialysis to filter her blood and remove toxic waste. "Conjoined twins occur in one in a hundred thousand live births — six cases a year on average in England and Wales. More are identified before birth and about 10 per cent survive long enough for doctors to contemplate surgery."

Vehicle identity scheme unacceptable, says civil liberties group

Police defend Molesworth pass plan

By Gareth Parry

Cambridgeshire police yesterday defended their plan to issue vehicle identity passes to villages living near the proposed cruise missile base at Molesworth. The National Council for Civil Liberties has condemned the scheme as "wholly unacceptable."

The deputy chief constable, Mr Bob Goslin said the windscreen stickers were an exercise in good community relations, because they would allow local people to use the narrow local roads which the police block during anti-aircraft demonstrations. "The passes are not intended to identify individuals, and there is no compulsion for anyone to have them if they don't want them," he said.

Ms Barbara Cohen, the NCC's legal officer said: "By

the issuing of ID passes, the Chief Constable is implying his authority to license different rights on the highway for different people."

The NCC has already challenged the legality of the roadblocks placed near Molesworth each weekend since the base was fenced in, more than three weeks ago. Ms Cohen said: "It is appalling in a country where the police are empowered to enforce the law that one by one, chief constables feel it is their right to make new laws."

However, Mr Goslin said: "The reaction from some sectors to our plan is ridiculous and misinformed. We are not checking on people. The passes will be for vehicles only. We have had police checks to stop roads being blocked by peace protesters' cars. Police have

stopped many villagers as well as peace campaigners while the roadblocks have been in force."

Mr Goslin said that there was nothing unique in the car pass plan. It was often used to allow people who lived around city football grounds to use

roads which were blocked to vehicles belonging to soccer fans.

The NCC, however, views the issue of passes near a cruise missile site as a different situation. "It is wholly unacceptable that people should have to prove their identity in order to enjoy their basic rights."

"People who come to road-

blocks without passes will be turned back; people showing them will have to negotiate their circumstances with the police by giving further identification."

The general secretary of CND Mr Bruce Kent, said the passes were "another indication of the extension of police powers in this country."

He added: "It is not the fault of CND or the Molesworth residents that Molesworth has become, because of the cruise missile decision, a focus for the international arms race. The police do not need extra powers to deal with the resultant traffic problems."

The passes are expected to be issued in time for the Easter CND Demonstration planned at Molesworth.

Ministry of Defence police arrested 16 people who broke through the outer perimeter fence at the base early yesterday. They were released without being charged.

Peace campaigners claimed yesterday that they had cut sections from the new £3 million fence and posted them to the Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine, and President Reagan. A message attached to the sections said further pieces would be sent "in regular instalments."

The Rev Michael Scott, a CND demonstration planned at Goldway, near Peterborough, chained himself to the railings of Peterborough cathedral for forty minutes yesterday, in protest against the proposed sale of church land to the Ministry of Defence.

Youth charged with three Newry killings

From Paul Johnson
in Belfast

A 17-year-old youth appeared in court in Northern Ireland yesterday accused of murdering three of the nine police officers who died in last week's IRA mortar attack on Newry police station.

Lawrence Peter Paul O'Keefe, unemployed, of Newry, was remanded in custody until Friday after an RUC detective inspector told a special sitting of Banbridge magistrates court that he believed he could connect the youth with the charges.

O'Keefe, slightly built with brown hair and a wispy moustache, was brought from Gough Bracks, Armagh, where he had been held since last Thursday night.

He continually broke down crying and shuddering during the six-minute hearing, and at one stage had to be supported by the police constable to whom he was handcuffed.

He is accused of murdering Chief Inspector Alex Donaldson, a reserve constable, Denis Price, and Constable Rosemary McGookin, on February 28.

A police inspector told the court, which had been cleared

except for reporters, two relatives, and a local politician, that when charged O'Keefe made no reply.

Mr Rory McShane, representing the accused, said he had been instructed to state that his client would be denying the charges. Mr McShane added that a bail application would be lodged with the High Court.

As O'Keefe got up to be escorted from the court, Mr Jim Wells, a Democratic Unionist Assembly member for the area, got to his feet and yelled abuse. He shouted that the defendant should be hanged.

Outside the court building about 30 demonstrators had gathered. They strung a Union flag from the fencing surrounding the building and brandished a piece of rope tied into a noose. Among the crowd were two women, one of whom had been in the mortar attack.

Police are still questioning two men, both with Newry addresses, in connection with the mortar raid.

An RUC Sergeant, Hugh McCormack, 40, who was shot dead by IRA gunmen outside a Catholic church in Co Fermanagh on Sunday, was buried yesterday.



Greenpeace protesters Paul Drury, left, and Joe Simpson don breathing apparatus to counter fumes before beginning their climb yesterday

Rock climbers scale chimney for Greenpeace

By Michael Parkin

TWO ROCK climbers from Greenpeace scaled a 250-ft high chimney before dawn yesterday at the works of Fluoride UK Ltd, near Selkirk, to protest against pollution of the Humber estuary.

They hung on the chimney a 70-ft long banner calling for "Clean Humber."

Paul Drury, came down after about 11 hours on the acid plant exhaust stack, leaving his colleague, Joe Simpson, still perched there. Greenpeace said that the two went up with supplies to last 10 to 14 days, and four gallons of water. Drury said: "We are guided by the police in this matter."

The Greenpeace protest follows a report to the Anglian Water Authority last week that Fluoride and SCM Chemicals Ltd, a plant

up stream also making titanium dioxide, were together creating a plume of discharges into the estuary. At certain stages of the tide the quality of the water inside the plume fell below the required environmental standard.

The remedy proposed by the water authority was that the discharge pipes should be extended into the estuary and be fitted with a diffuser.

Mr Andy Booth, for Greenpeace, said: "We are outraged that a responsible body should take such a naive view of pollution that it recommends pushing it further out to get rid of it — a short sighted and illogical solution."

Greenpeace wants the main pollutants from the plants — sulphuric acid and iron sulphate — to be recycled.

Titanium dioxide is a pigment used to whiten paint, plastics, paper and toothpaste.

Tory resigns from bypass inquiry

By Geoff Andrews,
Transport Correspondent

A Conservative MP yesterday resigned from a Government bypass scheme committee after the speaker of the Commons rejected his complaints about the way the committee was being run.

Mr Jerry Wiggin (Weston-super-Mare) announced at the beginning of yesterday's hearing of the joint committee of peers and MPs on the Okehampton bypass that he thought objectors would no longer think him impartial because of his complaints about the amount of time taken to outline the case.

He has been replaced by Mr

Henry Bellingham, the Conservative MP for Norfolk North-west, at the remaining hearing. In a letter, a group of 10 objectors said they had been misled by the committee's initial promise to hold a public inquiry into the bypass scheme.

The organisations have already committed themselves to spending \$40,000 on the hearings, which were initially expected to last no more than eight days. The case is now expected to last about twice as long and the protesters could lose the chance to challenge the government by running out of money.

They claim that in planning the A30 Okehampton bypass to route the edge of the national park through

two areas of open space, the Department of Transport has ignored a 1976 ruling that no major road building should take place on national park land where there is an alternative.

They also say that the reasons given for overruling an alternative route for the road through farmland are spurious.

Curiously, the complaint made by Mr Wiggin last Wednesday, is based on the same time problem that could jeopardise the chance of the objectors to get a ruling which could determine future road schemes involving both open spaces or national park land. Mr Wiggin claimed that the committee was heading a re-run of the planning inquiry.

Farmhands win 8.5pc

By Rosemary Collins

Farmworkers in England and Wales will get an 8.5 per cent pay increase on June 2, bringing the rate for farmworkers to £80.78 a week, and for craftsmen to £108.16, the Agriculture Wages Board said yesterday.

The National Farmers' Union protested strongly against the award, claiming that it would add £77 million to the industry's wage bill in a full year.

"The industry will have the greatest difficulty in absorbing this without shedding labour, which is the last thing we want to see happening in present circumstances," said Mr Chris French, the NFU chief negotiator.

Mr Jack Boddy, leader of the farmworkers' side, said the award was "a welcome step in the right direction, or rather a small shuffle rather than a step."

Guards 'on war footing'

By Gareth Parry

The 840 United States National Guardsmen who trained in Britain last year were practising their "war roles in support of Nato," Mr John Lee, the under-secretary for defence procurement, said in a written answer in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Lee was replying to Mrs Ann Clwyd, Labour MP for Cymru Valley, who last month raised the issue of the National Guard's hitherto unpublicised presence.

The guard, which is a 561,000-strong force of civilian part-time soldiers and airmen, is used in peacetime to deal with a variety of national emergencies.

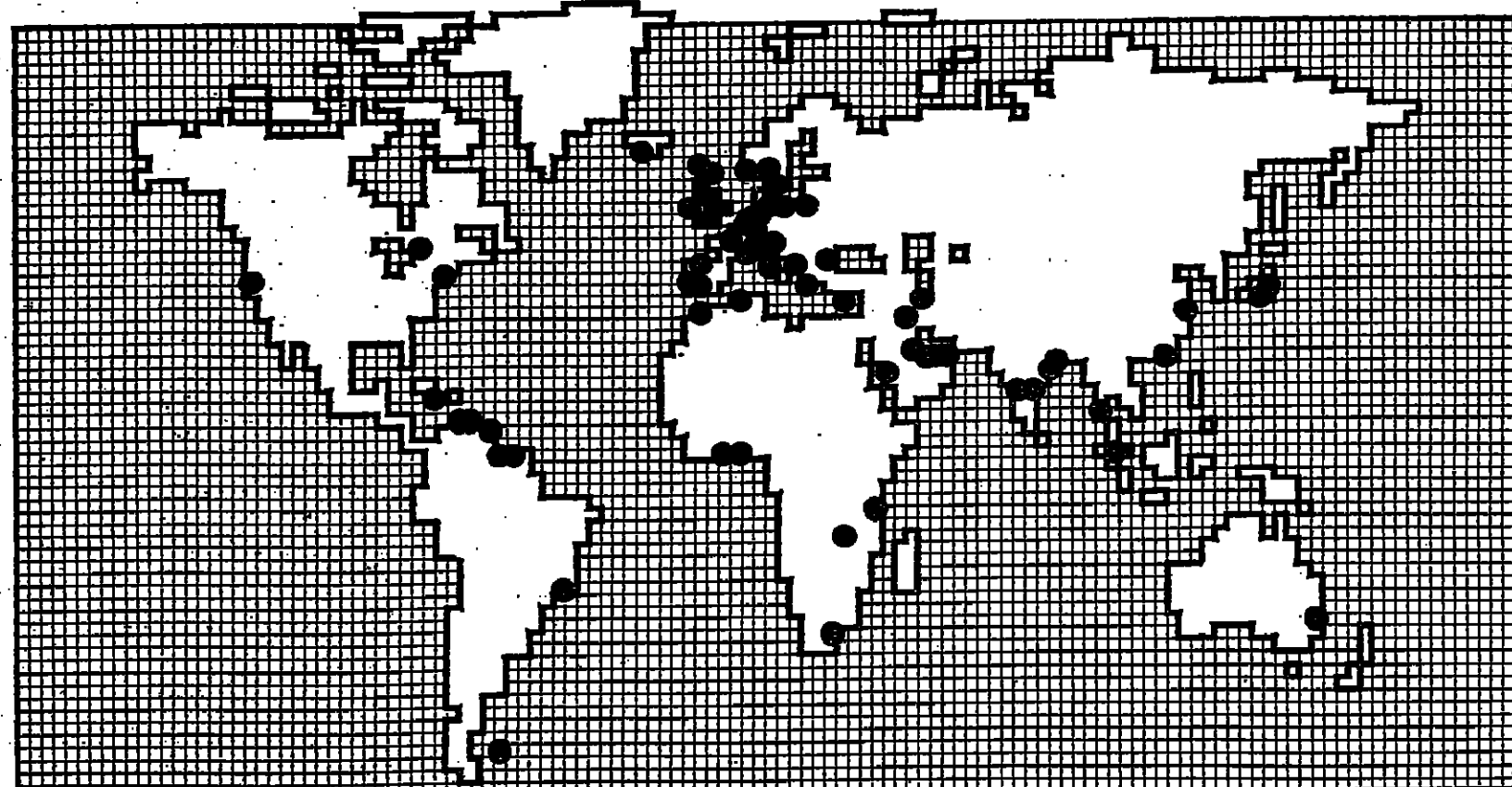
The 800 who came to Britain last year in an exchange programme with Britain's Territorial Army, took part in "general infantry training exercises" with the TA, said Mr Lee.

A THEOLOGICAL debate of religion was to engulf the world, said a spokesman for the World Reporter. The spokesman said that the only way of gathering information was through the World Reporter. The spokesman said that the only way of gathering information was through the World Reporter.

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Chelsea rioting 'tragedy for soccer'

THE Minister for Sport, Mr. Neil Macfarlane, yesterday condemned Monday night's soccer violence at Chelsea in which 20 policemen were injured and 104 people arrested as "a tragedy for British football."

He said the scenes were disgraceful and those behind them seemed intent on destroying the game. The violence disrupted the Milk Cup semi-final second leg against Sunderland at Stamford Bridge, which Chelsea lost 3-2 on the night and 5-3 on aggregate.

Incensed police were called to disperse a pitch invasion after Sunderland scored in the second half. Wooden stakes and seats were thrown on to the pitch. There was more fighting in the streets around the stadium after the match.

Six of the injured police and 23 people, mostly thought to have been fans, were treated in hospital.

The Chelsea chairman Mr. Ken Bates is reported to have called the trouble-makers scum and promised to drive them out of Stamford Bridge.

Mr. Macfarlane said yesterday: "Although I have only seen initial reports of the disgraceful scenes at Stamford Bridge last night it was clearly a tragedy for British football."

"I condemn the perpetrators of these senseless scenes of violence. They seem intent on destroying the game and the enjoyment of millions of true football fans."

A police spokesman said the trouble outside the ground involved West Ham supporters on their way home from their 1-1 draw with Wimbledon in an FA Cup fifth round match.

FA secretary, Mr. Ted Croker, who witnessed the scenes at Stamford Bridge, said yesterday: "We are awaiting the referee's report, but I have little doubt that they will have to be an inquiry."

"Compared with other incidents we have had to deal with in the past, last night's were very unpleasant. But I have a lot of sympathy with Chelsea and those who have crowd problems."

"Five years ago we were finding clubs guilty after similar troubles, but there's not much more we can do now they are all following our guidelines."

A Chelsea fan who chased Sunderland goal scorer Clive Walker and tried to punch him was yesterday bound over in the sum of £200 to keep the peace.

John Lester, aged 28, an accountant, admitted a breach of the peace.

David Lacey page 24

Director killed himself after giving orders to gaoled men

Two stole parts for Argentinian navy warships

Two former Rolls-Royce employees were gaoled yesterday for stealing engine components, some of which were destined for the Argentinian navy only months after the Falklands conflict.

Timothy Rigley, aged 45, a stores manager, was given 30 months at Warwick Crown Court after admitting four specimen charges of theft.

Henry McCarthy, aged 52, a van driver, received six months for stealing components.

Rigley, of St James Road, Leicester, was paid £22,500 for the components he stole over a period of seven years.

Mr. McCarthy, of Ansty Road, Coventry, received £250 for his part in the thefts.

Mr. McCarthy, QC, prosecuting, said that Rigley was given lists, sometimes of parts required for Rolls-Royce-powered Argentinian destroyers.

The lists came from a company director named Wallace Truslove, who committed suicide last year.

Rigley, who denied knowing that the components were bound for Argentina, smuggled the spares out in the Rolls-Royce plant at Ansty, Coventry, in his car or in a company van driven by McCarthy. He

also took small items out in his briefcase.

Judge Harrison Hall said Rigley was in a position of trust and authority but McCarthy was a "small fry". They had admitted stealing an Olympus gas turbine compressor rotor, valued at £170,000 and Proteus gas turbine parts.

Mr. Roberts said that Rigley started stealing parts in 1978. At the end of 1983, Mr. Truslove, a director of a firm called Skytrade, asked him to get spare parts for the Rolls-Royce Tyne engine, which powers Argentinian destroyers.

Rigley was given a list of wanted parts before the Falklands conflict. "Rigley would steal to order by looking around in his store to see what he could find and if there were any parts there which were on his list," said Mr. Roberts.

Rigley enlisted McCarthy's help when he was asked to provide larger parts, which sometimes weighed several hundredweight. Rigley was paid £250 for a gearbox which was sold to the Danish navy for £5,500, although Rolls-Royce valued it at £47,000.

Police recovered the £170,000 compressor rotor which the men stole.

Parents force inquiry at bankrupt school

By a Correspondent

The Charity Commissioners are investigating the finances of a bankrupt public school which closed overnight with debts said to be in the region of £500,000.

The 14 governors of Lucton School, Leominster, Herefordshire, are seeking legal advice because of the risk that they could be personally liable for debts if the sale of the school's assets do not meet the deficit.

The governors include two nominated representatives of the Hereford and Worcester County Council, Mr. Geoffrey Noman and Mrs. Alwyn Edwards. An emergency education sub-committee meeting has agreed to pay their immediate legal fees of about £1,000 each.

The Lord Lieutenant of Hereford and Worcester, John Lester, is the chairman of the co-educational school, which had 275 pupils aged from 11 to 18 and which

was founded in the reign of Queen Anne.

The school suffered a cash flow problem after adding annexes to its original building. A school of design was built in 1981 and two boarding houses were completed last year, but outstanding liabilities of £180,000 in August 1983 had increased to £275,000 by August 1984.

Miss Silvia Davies, the official conducting the inquiry for the commission, said: "We have had complaints from parents and in view of the concern we are trying to discover what happened."

"It is a legal principle that a trustee of any charity is expected to act as a prudent man of business."

A county council spokesman said: "These two members were nominated to represent the council and if there is some sort of legal comeback on them the authority is well within its right to alleviate their problems as it has done."



Brooke Matthews (centre), who was doing well yesterday following her heart and lung transplant operation at Harefield Hospital, west London, on Sunday. The five-year-old girl was taken off her respirator yesterday, and immediately asked for her mother, Mrs. Deborah Matthews (right), aged 26, who was at the hospital. Her father Robert (left), aged 39 was yesterday freed on £650 bail in Melbourne after pleading not guilty to robbing a hamburger restaurant of £1,300. He said earlier he had done it to raise money for the operation.

Diplomat's immunity waived in drug case

ZAMBIA has agreed to waive immunity on one of its diplomats so that inquiries into alleged heroin smuggling can continue, the Foreign Office said yesterday.

The Foreign Office confirmed last week that customs and excise authorities wanted to search Mr. Geoffrey Lubanga's premises as part of their inquiries. The search was abandoned when it became known that Mr. Lubanga, a third secretary at the Zambian High Commission, was entitled to claim diplomatic immunity.

A formal request was made to the Zambian government and the high commissioner, Lieutenant General Peter Zube, is understood to have referred the matter to President Kamunda in Lusaka. The reply was that the Zambians had agreed to the request under article 32 of the Vienna Convention, which covers the waiving of immunity for diplomats.

The Zambians' agreement was considered in Whitehall to be fairly rare. A FO spokesman said: "We expressed our gratitude to the Zambian government for the prompt response to our reply."

A customs spokesman declined to comment.

Tax lure to invest in homes for the elderly as union campaigns against exploitation

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

Investors are being offered tax incentives to put money into companies building homes for the elderly in the wake of social service and health cuts.

Firms are seeking investors before the end of the tax year so that high rate taxpayers can claim up to 60 per cent relief on money lent before April 6.

The National Union of Public Employees launched a campaign yesterday against exploitation of the elderly in private homes.

Three London boroughs, Croydon, Merton and Bexley, are considering following Wandsworth's example and selling old people's homes to the private sector. Bexley

wants to sell an old people's home as a going concern with the residents.

Companies planning to invest in the elderly boom are raising cash through the government's Business Expansion Scheme, under which they can offer for sale unquoted shares to the public. People can buy up to £50,000 of shares and provided they are not sold for five years, can set the cost against tax.

An investor putting in £40,000 can save £24,000 a year in tax for four years. At the end of the period, investors can look forward to a successful company seeking a public flotation and could sell their shares.

Companies seeking substantial investments for developments include Roman Homes, which wants to raise £1 million from private investors, and Rockwell Homes, seeking £500,000.

The development follows growing interest by building firms, including Barratts, Wimpey and Laing, in developing homes for the elderly and some of the new private hospital developments setting up nursing homes near their hospitals.

Mr. Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of Nupe, yesterday condemned the growing private sector interest at a local authority conference. He claimed that some firms were exploiting the elderly by charging them high prices.

high sales fees and paying staff poor wages.

The union had reports in London and Nottingham of poor conditions in homes, including an example of a cheap menu in a private home in Nottingham. At the same time, social service departments were being encouraged to privatise services and raise charges.

"There can be no economic human beings. We must act now to prevent the switch from helping the elderly in need to those who pay," he said.

Cashing in on Care. From the National Union of Public Employees, Civic House, 20 Great Depot Road, London SE18 6SP. Price £5.50.

Flick knife fine for royal chef

Christopher O'Brien: cleared of robbery

A former trainee chef at Buckingham Palace was yesterday fined £500 for carrying a flick knife and the theft of £1 but found not guilty of robbery.

At Southwark Crown Court Christopher O'Brien, aged 19, of Polgreen, Cornwall, was fined £250 for carrying an offensive weapon and £250 for theft, both of which he had admitted at the start of his two-day trial. The court was told O'Brien had been sacked from his job at Buckingham Palace after the incident last June.

O'Brien had followed hotel restaurant manager Patrick Ashe one night and took a pound note which Mr. Ashe dropped. The prosecution told the court that O'Brien was threatened with the knife which O'Brien had been carrying.

But O'Brien said he had not realised the knife was in his pocket and when he accidentally dropped the coat the knife fell open. He had tried to pick it up but it had fallen to the ground.

Mr. Nicholas Purnell, prosecution, said that the £240,000 donations were given only because of the case, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday.

Four men involved in the London-based charity were accused of cheating the public out of donations.

Mr. Nicholas Purnell, prosecution, said that the £240,000 donations were given only because of the case, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday.

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Shock regime for young extended despite doubts

By Malcolm Dean

The "short, sharp, shock" regime is to be extended from today to all 18 detention centres in England and Wales.

The Conservatives first committed themselves to a tougher approach to crime in the run-up to the 1979 election. Once in government, they introduced the bristler regime at two detention centres and extended the experiment to two further centres in 1981.

During the experimental period, the emphasis was on fewer privileges and outside activities, a bristler tempo, less education, more physical training, drill, parades, inspections, and earlier lights out.

A four-man Home Office research team, which observed the experiment, concluded in a 300-page report published last year that the regime had no effect on re-conviction rates and little effect on conduct within the institutions. It also said that "many of the features sought by the Home Secretary were already present."

It showed that 20 per cent of the junior trainees had no previous convictions, but that 10 per cent had at least seven convictions. Burglary and theft were the most common

offences, but about a quarter of the juniors and a third of the seniors had been convicted of some form of violence.

About 11,000 offenders aged between 14 to 20 were given detention orders in 1983. The minimum length of the order was reduced during the year from six weeks to three.

The research team found the trainees enjoyed the extra physical education and drill. These will now be dropped and a new emphasis will be placed on mundane work, which was unpopular with the offenders.

Mr. Vernon Starn, the director of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, criticised the Government yesterday for extending the new regime. It had failed in its purpose of "shocking young offenders out of their delinquency," he said.

"The regimes have proved one of the most clear-cut failures of modern penal policy. Seven out of every 10 juveniles leaving detention centres are re-convicted within two years. Instead of tinkering with custodial regimes, we must make every effort to increase the use of constructive, non-custodial measures."

Children with Cancer, a charity with a name carefully chosen to appeal to people's emotions, gave only £240,000 out of £440,000 donations to the cause, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday.

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RTE defies pressure to 'freeze' job

From Joe Joyce in Dublin

The board of RTE, the Irish state broadcasting system, has defied a government demand to freeze its total cost of operations amid accusations of political interference by the government.

The nine-member authority, nominated by Mr. John Sorehan, the head of RTE's outside broadcasting services, to succeed Mr. George Waters, who retired next month, in spite of a "request" from the Communications Minister, Mr. Jim Mitchell, that it defer the appointment pending a review of broadcasting services.

Mr. Mitchell denied in the Dail yesterday that his request was motivated by a desire to delay the appointment until the formation of a new authority for the station. He cited imminent developments in satellite and cable systems to justify a full-scale review of broadcasting services.

Mr. Charles Haughey, the opposition leader, claimed the government was trying to ensure its total control over the public media by having its own man in the job.

Although the authority has power to nominate, the appointment has to be confirmed by the communications minister.

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GUARDIAN PERSONAL

ART GALLERIES & EXHIBITIONS

BARBARA ART GALLERY, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763

PM is adamant on pits amnesty issue

PITS DISPUTE

By our Political Staff

The Prime Minister yesterday ruled out an amnesty for striking miners sacked for serious crimes during the pits dispute and said they must "face the consequences."

"There can be no amnesty in any way for those who have committed serious criminal offences," Mrs Thatcher declared at a Commons question time. "Serious criminal acts have been committed during this dispute against both persons and the property of working miners, and against the property of the National Coal Board. People who commit such acts must expect to face the consequences," she added as she faced repeated Labour challenges.

Mrs Thatcher attempted to drive a wedge into the Labour ranks by claiming that both Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, and his deputy, Mr Roy Hattersley, had both made it clear that those who had committed serious acts of violence should not expect to be reinstated.

Mrs Thatcher said that with certain exceptions the return to work in the coal mines had been orderly and at a high rate.

"The strike is very nearly over and I hope they will soon



Mr Canavan: "Demanding full pound of flesh"

go back to normal working because that is the way to build a highly competitive industry again."

Mr Dennis Canavan (Lab, Falkirk W) claimed that miners in Scotland were now facing a "two-tier system" of law. They faced not only the magistrates courts but also the courts of Ian MacGregor and the Scottish area NCB director, he claimed. He accused Mrs Thatcher of demanding "a full pound of flesh" from the miners.

She was challenged by Mr Dick Douglas (Lab, Dunfermline W), who again pressed her to declare an amnesty particularly for the Scottish miners. He accused the NCB director in Scotland of acting as a "Pontius Pilate" in stating there would be no amnesty before the return to work had even begun.

Mrs Thatcher restated her position that serious criminal acts had been committed during the dispute against both the persons and property of working miners. She said that when normal working was resumed then the NCB's appeals machinery could be brought into play.

When Mr Bob Parry (Lab, Liverpool, Riverside) recalled the prayer of St Francis of Assisi which Mrs Thatcher had quoted on the steps of Downing Street in May, 1979, he was met by Conservative jeers.

He urged the Prime Minister: "Will you have compassion for the miners, their families and their children? If you don't you will go down in history as a cruel and vindictive."

Mrs Thatcher replied: "The worst discord this country has seen for a very long time has been created by the leadership of the NUM. They have split their own union, set family against family, brother against brother and miner against miner."

WAGE COUNCILS Reprieve angers Tories

TORY MPs showed open hostility yesterday to the expected reprieve for the Wages Councils.

It is expected that the Employment White Paper to be published next month will recommend that the councils should be reformed rather than abolished.

But young people aged 18 or under will exempt from the protection of the wages councils, which set minimum pay rates for nearly 3,000,000 workers.

Yesterday a succession of Tory MPs pressed the Employment Minister, Mr Peter Bottomley, not to falter in abolishing the councils which, they claimed, had allowed people to take jobs at rates of pay below the minimum.

Mr Michael Forsyth (C, Stirling) said: "The wages councils have failed in their purpose. They have destroyed jobs for young people and ethnic minorities. They have rewarded those in semi-skilled jobs at the expense of the unskilled."

Mr Bottomley said that the question facing the Government was whether it is right to allow people to take the jobs they are willing to take at rates of pay the employers are willing to offer and what kind of protection is essential.

Follow US and Japan — Thatcher

EMPLOYMENT

By Alan Travis

UNEMPLOYMENT will only begin to come down when the British people stop relying on increased subsidies sent to the Americans and Japanese in setting out to create more small businesses themselves, the Prime Minister told the Commons yesterday.

Mrs Thatcher was replying to Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, during a question time. He had asked her to state when her claimed economic miracle would come about and bring unemployment down.

Mr Kinnock said: "The rate of male unemployment in the South Wales coalfield and other similar areas is now 20 per cent or more. What is she going to do in order to reduce unemployment in these areas?"

Mrs Thatcher replied that if he was referring to pit closures that might come about with the special enterprise companies which were being set up and which would be given more finance it was necessary.

Mr Kinnock said: "I am talking about existing unemployment, not just the unemployment caused by the Prime Minister's actions on mining communities." He said that further cuts in regional aid and training programmes had meant that all the Prime Minister could do was to

close down communities.

Mrs Thatcher replied: "We shall get extra jobs when we can create more enterprise which produces goods and services which people will buy. We shall have far more chance of reducing unemployment if the honourable gentleman ceased to support strikes and pay claims regardless of the effect upon the jobs of others."

Mr Kinnock responded: "When, Mr Speaker? That is what the whole country is asking. When will this miracle come about?"

Mrs Thatcher said: "It will come about when our people, instead of relying on increased subsidies, do exactly what is happening in the United States and in

Japan, and set out to create more small businesses themselves."



Mr Kinnock: "What miracle?"

Commons 'quiet men' tackle drugs ban Order

By our Political Staff

Officials from the Department of Health will be called before one of the most obscure committees in the Commons next week to justify the controversial government Order putting into effect the ban on certain drugs being prescribed on the NHS.

The Joint Statutory Estimates Committee, chaired by Labour backbencher Mr Andrew Bennett, decided at a private meeting in the Commons yesterday to summon the officials to give assurances without compromising other legislation. But, if a row broke out on the issue, it will draw the attention of the Commons to something its members have found to be unsatisfactory.

The Order, which is to be

debated shortly by Parliament, provided one of the few occasions for the committee to take a high profile in the life of Parliament. Normally it works quietly in the background on a diet which in an average week included the regulations on wheel clamps and the Underused Crabs Order.

The committee has no powers to challenge the merits of a Parliamentary Order. Its job is to test whether the measure is sound and achieves what the Government intends properly, without compromising other legislation. But, if a row broke out on the issue, it will draw the attention of the Commons to something its members have found to be unsatisfactory.

Mr Bennett has noticed that

the Government is increasingly using Orders to carry out its work.

This could be described as an "underhand" way of putting controversial measures into effect because they cannot be amended and can only be debated for about 90 minutes if they are objected to.

Mr Bennett (Denton and Reddish) said: "There is a significant trend towards using statutory instruments. I am concerned about this. The most notorious case was in the Local Government Bill where the Government included a provision to abolish the Inner London Education Authority by an order."

"I said this required a proper bill of its own. It is simply

a way out for a minister who has a political hot potato. If he doesn't want to make up his mind because it is controversial he says he will make an order if necessary. This is happening more."

Yesterday in the Commons, Mrs Thatcher attacked the campaign against the drugs "black list" proposals waged by the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI). Replying to Mr Marcus Fox (C, Shipley) she said: "It is disgraceful they should prey upon the fears of elderly people who will continue to receive the drugs they need on the NHS even though they may be in slightly different form from that to which they have been accustomed."

MP and minister in bus bill clash

TRANSPORT

The Transport Junior Minister, Mr David Mitchell, faced angry Opposition protests yesterday with talk of a backbench revolt after the Commons Select Committee's Labour chairman in framing a critical report on the Government plans to deregulate bus services.

Mr Mitchell triggered the row yesterday when he tackled the Transport Committee chairman and Labour MP, Mr Harry Cowan's "disastrous track record."

The minister was commenting during debate on the Government's Transport Bill in an "upstairs" committee debate, on the Labour MP's use of his casting vote in shaping the critical transport report.

The Labour backbencher had previously predicted the "disappearance" of local transport in the wake of government policies, Mr Mitchell said.

Opposition MPs protested as he demanded: "Are we to take much credence from the casting vote of an MP whose track record is so disastrous?"

Immediately Mr Mitchell was accused of questioning Mr Cowan's integrity. After the issue surfaced in the chamber later, Mr Cowan said he would study the remarks and consider a formal protest motion.

Responding to complaints in the Commons on the issue, the Speaker himself appeared to back Mr Cowan.

Mr Bernard Weatherill, after hearing repeated Labour calls to act, said a "proper report to the House" could be made if Mr Cowan was upset and the minister refused to withdraw his remarks.

In its report the Transport Select Committee said scrapping the 50-year-old bus licensing system would cause "catastrophic" damage to the industry and "endanger" public safety.

London comment, page 10

EMBRYO BILL

'Speedy Powell' protests

By our Political Staff

OPPOSITION to Mr Enoch Powell's bill to ban experiments on human embryos are planning to protest at the bill's committee stage which opens in the Commons today over the speeding up of its progress.

Mr Powell (OUU, Down S) has managed to bring his bill forward by about six weeks, in effect leapfrogging other backbench bills, thus increasing its chances of reaching the statute book.

Opponents of the bill also mean to table many amendments to the bill after today's meeting.

Mr Powell and his supporters have tabled their own amendments to tidy up the drafting of the bill. The most important is one aimed at answering concern in the Second Reading debate about the possibility of bureaucrats being able to turn down applicants for in-vitro fertilisation.

But Mr Brynmor Jones, Labour's agricultural spokesman, complained that information about the toxic effects of pesticides was available in the United States but could not be disclosed in the United Kingdom. "We believe that we need to have legislation for maximum public disclosure on this issue," he said.



Mr John MacGregor

SCOTLAND

Assembly bill lost

A CALL to establish a democratically-elected Scottish Assembly with legislative, administrative and taxation powers was made yesterday in the Commons by Mr John MacGregor (Lab, Cathcart) under the 10 minute rule.

He said it was six years since 52 per cent of the Scottish people had voted in a referendum supporting an Assembly. Since then the Conservative Government had "hustled in" an even more centralised State with all power concentrated in Westminster and Whitehall.

The bill was rejected by 169 votes to 95.

CIVIL DEFENCE

Identity card plan

THE GOVERNMENT is actively considering issuing identity cards to volunteers involved in civil defence, says Colin Brown.

The Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, is considering issuing the cards under the Geneva Convention on civil defence. They could apply to about 20,000 volunteers if they were issued to all those involved in the civil defence under 100 people if they were restricted to community officers.

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PROSPECTUS 2ND JULY 1984

DESCRIPTION AND TAX RELIEF: 1. National Savings Yearly Plan Certificate is a savings scheme for the purpose of accumulating funds for the purchase of a house or other capital asset. It is a long-term investment and is not subject to the usual rules of capital gains tax. It is a tax-advantaged investment and is eligible for relief under the provisions of the Finance Act 1973. It is a long-term investment and is not subject to the usual rules of capital gains tax. It is a tax-advantaged investment and is eligible for relief under the provisions of the Finance Act 1973.

ELIGIBILITY: 2. A Yearly Plan agreement may be applied for by any person who is at least 18 years of age and is not subject to any legal disability. It may be applied for by a person who is at least 18 years of age and is not subject to any legal disability. It may be applied for by a person who is at least 18 years of age and is not subject to any legal disability.

APPLICATION: 3. An application for a Yearly Plan agreement must be made to the Director of National Savings. The application must be made in writing and must be accompanied by a standing order for the payment of the agreed monthly sum. The application must be made in writing and must be accompanied by a standing order for the payment of the agreed monthly sum.

INTEREST RATES NOTIFICATION AND ACCEPTANCE: 4. The interest rate applicable to a Yearly Plan agreement will be notified to the applicant in writing at the time of the application. The interest rate will be notified to the applicant in writing at the time of the application.

PAYMENTS: 5. Payments may be made by standing order to the Director of National Savings. Payments may be made by standing order to the Director of National Savings.

TERMS: 6. The Yearly Plan agreement is for a period of five years. The Yearly Plan agreement is for a period of five years.

YEARLY PLAN APPLICATION

THE SAVINGS CERTIFICATE OFFICE, YEARLY PLAN SECTION, DURHAM DH99 1NS.

1 Name and Address of Applicant (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Surname: _____ Mr/Ms/Miss

First name(s): _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Day _____ Month _____ Year _____

2 I will arrange monthly payments of: £ _____

3 Other Payments to Yearly Plan: If payments are already being made to Yearly Plan on behalf of the above, please give the Yearly Plan number: _____

4 I accept the terms of the Prospectus dated 2 July 1984.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Yearly Plan Standing Order Mandate

Please pay to the Bank of England for the credit of National Savings

Sorting Code: 10-21-99 Account Number: 225770099 Quoting Reference: _____

on the _____ of each month until further notice in writing, the sum of £ _____

Please enter full Name and Address of Bank: _____

Name of account to be debited: _____

Account Number: _____

Bank Branch: _____

Signature(s) of Account Holder(s): _____

Date: _____

Washington bans passing
of Anzus secrets

Australia and NZ defence pact in balance

From Richard Yallop
in Melbourne

The Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, will meet his New Zealand counterpart, Mr David Lange, for talks next month to discuss future relations between the two countries after the apparent disintegration of the Anzus alliance.

On Monday, Mr Hawke postponed indefinitely the Anzus council meeting due to be held in Australia in July. He said that the treaty, which has joined Australia, New Zealand, and the US in a defence agreement since 1951, was now inoperative, "and exists in name only," because of New Zealand's refusal to admit US ships with nuclear capability.

It was also announced yesterday that the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, is likely to visit Australia in July for bilateral talks which will take the place of the Anzus council meeting.

The implications of the ending of the treaty were discussed yesterday by Australia's Foreign Minister, Mr Bill Hayden, who interrupted his tour of south-east Asia for talks in Kuala Lumpur with the US Assistant Secretary of State for East-Asian and Pacific Affairs, Mr Paul Wolfowitz.

At the same time, the Australian Defence Minister, Mr Kim Beazley, was preparing to visit the US and New Zealand to negotiate the bilateral agreements with both countries which will take the place of the Anzus treaty.

Australia has stressed that it will maintain its traditional defence links with its neighbour and new defence exercises between Australia and New Zealand forces are due to be announced soon, replacing the Anzus Sea Eagle exercises cancelled by Washington last month.

The defence relationship between the two neighbours will be hampered by the fact that the Americans have asked Australia not to pass on to New Zealand any intelligence originating in the US. Australia will continue to give New Zealand any intelligence originating in Australia.

Foreign affairs officials emphasised Australia's continuing support for New Zealand, to quell the suggestion that Australia has abandoned its smaller neighbour and acted as the mouthpiece of American foreign policy. A cartoon in yesterday's Melbourne Herald depicted Mr Hawke as a ventriloquist's dummy on President Reagan's lap.

From the start, Mr Hawke said that the dispute between New Zealand and the US had to be resolved by the two countries, and that Australia would not act as a messenger for the US, or attempt to persuade New Zealand to change its mind, beyond stating the Australian view that, by banning US nuclear ships, it was not fulfilling its Anzus obligations.

Australia had felt for several months that the Anzus Council was in doubt, but a decision was delayed in case New Zealand shifted its position. When officials in Washington told Mr Hawke that the US would not sit down with New Zealand at the council, and it became clear that Mr Lange would not move, Mr Hawke announced the postponement of the council.

He was made aware of the strength of Australian support for Anzus by the outcry which followed his decision to withdraw his original offer to assist the Americans in tests of the new cruise missile. Leftwing opposition within the Labour party caused the backdown.

The Americans withdrew their request for assistance, removing the source of Mr Hawke's embarrassment. It was taken as an indication that, while the US was prepared to abandon the lesser partner in the alliance, it did not want to break links with Australia. The Guller adds from Geneva: Mr Lange insisted here yesterday to the UN Conference on Disarmament that Anzus was alive and well despite the cancellation of the council meeting.

Later, Mr Lange told journalists that he was confident that Anzus would still be used in the event of any of its three members being attacked.

Contras accused of rights abuses

WASHINGTON: AU sides in Nicaragua's conflict have violated laws of war, but the left-wing Sandinistas have reduced their abuses while those of the US-backed Contras have increased, a private human group said yesterday.

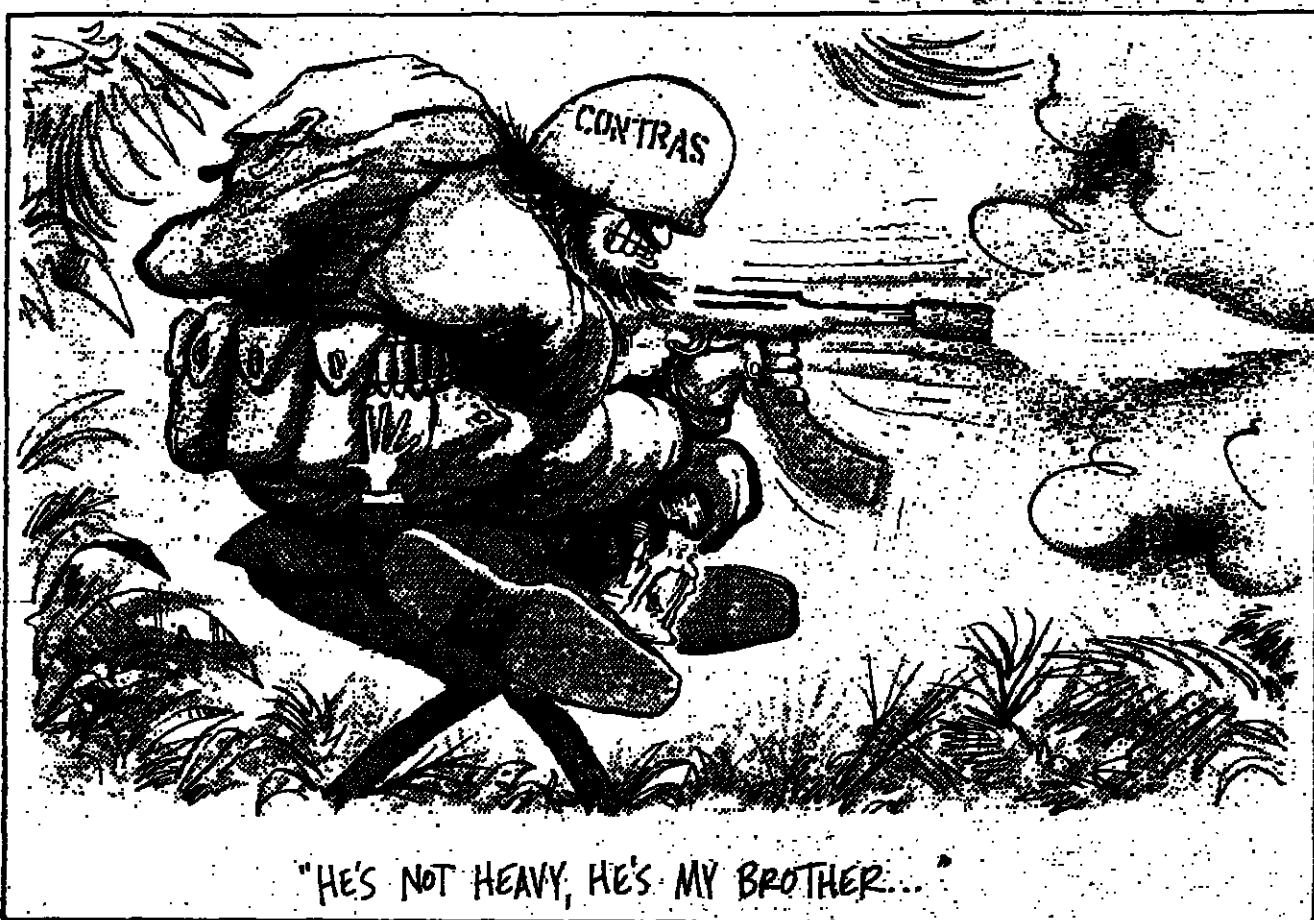
The New York-based Americas Watch Committee also charged that "The United States has aided and abetted the Contras in committing abuses by organising, training, supplying and financing them."

Americas Watch, which monitors human rights in the Western hemisphere, also claimed that by producing a rebel manual with advice on "neutralising" Nicaraguan officials, the CIA "directly solicited the Contras to engage in violations of the law of war."

President Reagan, in recent appeals for renewal of US aid to the rebels, has praised them as "freedom fighters" and the "moral equal of our founding fathers."

In a 97-page report, entitled "Violations of the Laws of War by Both Sides in Nicaragua," Americas Watch said that the rebels have launched indiscriminate attacks on civilians, tortured and mutilated prisoners, murdered wounded soldiers, taken hostages and raped women.

Anti-Sandinista military commanders yesterday expressed concern here about the psychological effects of Congress refusing to fund and ordered to establish a rebel government in Nicaragua if necessary to obtain the money.—AP/Reuter.



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Ortega optimistic of Washington talks

From Tony Jenkins
in Managua

President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua said yesterday that he was optimistic that Managua and Washington could soon resume talks to solve their differences.

He was speaking at Sandino airport here on his return from Uruguay where he met the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz. The US broke off bilateral talks in Mexico last month.

Mr Ortega said: "Mr Shultz insisted that the dialogue had

not been cut but temporarily suspended, in such a way that the possibility of renewing the dialogue in Manzanillo (Mexico) was left open."

Mr Ortega had told Mr Shultz that the talks must be resumed to normalise US-Sandinista relations and to bolster the Contadora regional peace effort.

That the two men had met at all, Mr Ortega said, was a positive step which it had been difficult to hope for given the recent White House threats to overthrow the Sandinistas. But he warned against

any immediate breakthrough. Mr Ortega's comments were backed by an announcement on Monday night that the foreign ministers of the Contadora group — Colombia, Panama, Mexico, and Venezuela — will meet on March 21 and 22.

The last Contadora meeting on February 14 was cancelled after Costa Rica, Honduras, and El Salvador refused to attend. The three countries argued that Nicaragua had violated an international treaty by arresting a Nicaraguan army deserter who had sought asylum in the Costa Rican em-

bassy here. The issue was resolved last week when Mr Ortega decided to release the man to Colombian authorities.

A Latin American diplomat said: "We are all relieved. The situation was starting to get out of control and for a moment we wondered if Contadora was dead. Now it's President Reagan's turn to calm down."

Last week, the Sandinistas announced a moratorium on the purchase of new weapons systems. They also decided to send 100 Cuban military advisers home.

Chile quake leaves homes in ruins

From Malcolm Coad
in Santiago

Estimates of the number of people left homeless by Sunday's earthquake have risen sharply as details come in from the coastal regions, which received the worst of the shock.

The Government said that 152,000 people have lost their homes, at least temporarily. Almost 3,000 houses are estimated so far to have been destroyed outright, while several times that number will have to be demolished, and many more substantially repaired.

The official death toll stands at 135, with 2,000 injured. From the information now coming in from the coast, much of which was cut off after the disaster struck, it is astonishing that the casualty figures were not much higher. This can only be due to the quick reactions of a population which lives constantly with tremors and the threat of worse. Serious quakes occur here once every 10 or 15 years.

Towns such as the port of San Antonio, 30 miles south-east of the quake's epicentre in the Pacific Ocean, look as if they have been through a war. In the larger cities of Valparaiso and Vina del Mar, modern apartment blocks as well as adobe dwellings are twisted and shattered. Local people camp in streets and parks under improvised shelters of blankets and plastic. Water and electricity are scarce, and telephones in the region will not be restored for several days.

Similar scenes are repeated in towns around Santiago, and in the poorer areas of the capital itself. Local authorities have provided shelter in schools and other buildings, but many people prefer the street, scared of losing their few remaining belongings and sceptical that they will be given long-term aid. They gather near remaining buildings, many of which are damaged and shake perilously through continuing tremors which come every few minutes.

The Government has said that while resources will be reallocated for reconstruction from the national budget, the economy cannot stand the provision of extra funds.

The Peruvian Government has provided a field hospital, while the Chilean transport plane was bringing aid from Argentina, Spain, Colombia and Venezuela have also promised help, and the US embassy has made a first donation of \$25,000.

Pensioner held in street shooting

From Christopher Reed
in San Francisco

Police here are investigating what appears to be another vigilante shooting in which a retired man was shot and a young man in the city's main street.

The assailant, Tony Thomas, aged 68, has been charged with attempted murder. His so far unidentified victim, a "street person" in his 20s, died several hours later after undergoing surgery. Mr Thomas may now face a murder charge which could mean the death penalty.

Witnesses said that Mr Thomas was walking down San Francisco's Market Street around lunchtime and was blocked by the younger man. The two argued over who had obstructed whom when Mr

Thomas said: "Well screw you," a witness reported.

Mr Thomas produced a .357 revolver and shot twice. As his victim lay on the ground, he allegedly stood over him and then replaced the gun in his holster under his jacket and strode off.

He surrendered quietly to police and allegedly told detectives later that he had bought the gun for protection. He also carried a knife in an ankle sheath.

The killing follows the shooting on the New York underground of four black youths by a white engineer, Bernhard Goetz, in that shooting one died. In the San Francisco case both Mr Thomas and his victim are white.

US curb on Japan's whaling

By Simon Tisdall

A US FEDERAL judge yesterday ordered the Reagan Administration to take economic sanctions against Japan because of continued Japanese hunting of sperm whales in defiance of an international ban.

In his ruling, in a suit brought last November by conservationists, Judge Charles Richey said that the US and Japan could not agree to ignore the 1981 international Whaling Commission moratorium. The Commerce Secretary, Mr Malcolm Baldrige, "had a clear and non-discretionary duty to certify to President Reagan that Japan's sperm whaling (is) in violation of the IWC zero sperm whale quota," the judge said.

The sanctions ordered by the judge affect half of Japanese fishing quotas in US territorial waters, which in 1983 were valued at \$500 million—10 times the value of Japan's whale catch. An agreement last November between the US and Japan ruled out such sanctions until at least 1987. Japan also hunts minke whales in the Antarctic and has objected to an IWC moratorium on all commercial whaling due to come into force next year.

Significantly, Mr Justice Richey said the Administration must also reduce Japan's fishing allocation in US waters because its whaling activities reduced the effectiveness of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling.

At the time of the US-Japan agreement, Mr Baldrige claimed the deal would bring to an end, as specific times and dates, all Japanese commercial whaling. But this was immediately denied in Tokyo, and the agreement was denounced by conservationists.

In the judgment, delivered in Washington, Mr Justice Richey ordered Mr Baldrige to take immediate action to enforce the IWC ban. Secretary of Commerce may not unilaterally, or even bilaterally with the Japanese, dismiss the mandate of the IWC over the protection of its own particular vision of whale preservation," the judge said.

Criticism grows of Stroessner visit

From Anna Tomforde
in Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl, faced with growing criticism about an official visit by the President of Paraguay, General Alfredo Stroessner, yesterday defended his decision and said that his government could not make human rights a yardstick of its foreign policy.

General Stroessner, who is of German descent, will pay his first visit to Bonn in July. Diplomatic circles expressed surprise at the timing of the visit, coming soon after the VE Day celebrations, and in the midst of international efforts to capture Josef Mengele, the Nazi death camp doctor believed to be in hiding in Paraguay.

Chancellor Kohl told a cabinet meeting yesterday that Germany could not make its invitations to foreign leaders dependent on their human rights record. He also attacked the "double standards" of those who criticised small countries with undemocratic regimes, while sparing "larger countries with totalitarian leaderships."

Apart from prompting protests from the Green Party, and causing Amnesty International to launch a campaign against the visit, the invitation has also led to criticism within the Centre-Right coalition.

The Foreign Ministry, held by the Liberals, has indicated that it was by-passed in the preparations for the visit, agreed between Dr Kohl and the Bavarian leader Mr Franz Josef Strauss, who is a personal friend of Gen Stroessner.

The Foreign Minister, Mr Hans Dietrich Genscher, has also said to be embarrassed about having to welcome the man who has imposed iron rule on Paraguay for the past 30 years.

In defence, the government has said it will raise the human rights issue and question Gen Stroessner about Dr Mengele, whose extradition Bonn has requested from Paraguay without success. It also points out that there are about 200,000 Germans or people of German origin, living in Paraguay, and says that the visit was agreed because Gen Stroessner, aged 72, wanted to visit the country of his forefathers before he died.

According to information provided by the owners, UPI has been making an operating profit of some \$1.1 million during the last three months. But its position remains grave because of its \$17 million debt.

Magazines and newspapers in the US, even loss-makers, have been changing hands at record prices in recent months. Yet UPI—one of the principal sources of the news these local newspapers carry—is regarded as too difficult to handle.

ally building its strength and network of bureaux across the country. That UPI is back on the market is certain to lead to new conjecture.

In the latest management upset, Mr Luis Nogueles, who was named president six months ago, and the firm's financial consultant, Mr Ray Wechsler, were dismissed.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Defence experts' warning

NATIONAL Security experts in Washington have concluded that the likelihood of nuclear war between the US and the Soviet Union is not much greater now than it has ever been.

But the specialists warned against "comfort or complacency." They said that US defence, of its allies have eroded while the Russians are becoming more assertive around the world and US-Soviet relations have deteriorated.

The report was issued by Georgetown University's Centre for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington-based defence and foreign policy research institute.—AP.

Extradition order

A magistrate in Los Angeles yesterday ordered the extradition to Yugoslavia of Andrija Artukovic, aged 85, who is accused by Belgrade of complicity in the wartime execution of 770,000 Jews, Serbs and Gypsies. But the magistrate issued his ruling on the basis of a single alleged murder and stayed his order for 60 days to give Yugoslav authorities time to provide information on other executions.—Reuter.

New Bible

A NEW edition of Luther's Bible went on sale yesterday in West Germany. The German Bible Society, the Stuttgart publisher, said the new version preserves most of the text of Martin Luther, who translated the first German Bible in the sixteenth century. Only words that have passed out of the German vocabulary have been altered, and new meanings were altered.—AP.

Hope for Kim

THE political ban on the disident, Kim Dae-jung, and 13 other South Korean leaders lifted by the government today, diplomats said in Seoul. Kim would also be allowed to leave his house where he has been confined by police since returning from two years in exile in the US on February 8. But Kim will still be prevented from joining a political party.—Reuter.

Strikes ruling

WEST Germany's Federal Labour Court yesterday declared sympathy strikes illegal and said that only those employees directly involved in a dispute could take industrial action. In a ruling based on a walkout by printworkers in support of striking colleagues in 1981, the court said that a business need not suffer stoppages from a dispute with one group of workers.—Reuter.

Aids test

A TEST aimed at preventing the transmission of the Aids virus through blood transfusions will be available in Europe from today. A spokesman at the Antwerp office of Abbott Laboratories said that it expected European health authorities to approve distribution of the product, which already has the all-clear from the US Government.—Reuter.

Cyclone deaths

CYCLONE Gavin swept through Fiji last night, killing two people and flooding large areas of the main island Viti Levu as well as 1,000 people fled to evacuation shelters. It was the third cyclone in two months to hit the South Pacific islands and most of its victims were still trying to rebuild their homes after the previous storms.—Reuter.

Doctor sentenced

A Greek gynaecologist, aged 72, was sentenced in Salonica yesterday to two years in gaol for selling abortion pills to babies to childless couples, a gypsy woman who supplied the new-born children was gaoled for eight months. Dr Athanasios Tandassis was freed pending an appeal hearing.—AP.

Vatican deficit

A PANEL of Cardinals yesterday began a three-day meeting to examine the Vatican's budget deficit, said to be running at more than £30 million a year. Vatican sources said the Cardinals will examine the financial squeeze the Holy See is facing in running the Roman Catholic Church's central administration.—AP.

Fabius visit

THE French Prime Minister, Mr Laurent Fabius, is to visit South Korea from April 7 to 9 after a diplomatic row with Paris earlier this year, the Foreign Ministry said in Seoul yesterday.—Reuter.

Bergman's award

PRESIDENT MITTERAND decorated the Swedish film and theatre director, Ingmar Bergman, in Paris yesterday Commander of the Legion of Honour.—AP.



● Craxi: Irritated

Hungarian minister arrives in London

by Hella Pick

The Foreign Minister of Hungary, Mr Peter Varkonyi, arrived in London yesterday for a three-day visit during which he will meet the Prime Minister and hold talks with the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, and with Mr Jeffrey Tobin, Secretary for Trade.

He will also see Cals, the Italian of his choice, which he wants to see in the Cals initiative with the Hungarian transition that has played in Budapest.

Mr Varkonyi is returning the visit to Budapest by the Foreign Secretary in 1983. Just over a year ago, Mrs Thatcher was in Hungary where she accepted a relationship which is one of the best between

Britain and the Warsaw pact countries.

But Mr Varkonyi's visit now is also part of a determined British effort to improve contacts with all the Warsaw Pact countries, including the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Romania and Bulgaria last month, and will be going to East Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Poland immediately after Easter.

During his talks with Mr Varkonyi, Mr Geoffrey Howe intends to set out NATO's understanding of the US-Soviet arms control negotiations, which begin in Geneva next week. He will stress the positive aspects of President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative and underline that the Administration is now firmly committed to talks with the Soviet Union.

Rouble trouble as flower crisis hits Moscow

The big question in the Soviet Union today is: where have all the bouquets gone?

From Martin Walker
in Moscow

THE SOVIET Union faces a flower crisis and the economy of the entire population is at risk.

International Women's Day is on Friday, and we need any son, husband, lover, or father who fails to present the woman in his life with a bouquet.

But this year's harsh winter has brought chaos to the Soviet flower supply. The biggest daffodil production centre in Russia, the Kaspiskiy collective farms, was supposed to deliver 1.4 million daffodils this week to Moscow shop alone, but the farm's director has now

said that he will only be able to supply 100,000 blooms.

This kind of shortage in Moscow's state flower shops usually benefits the enterpreneurs in the peasants' markets, who booked every plant seat from Georgia to Moscow months ago.

The air ticket costs 75 rubles (£75), but that includes 45 lbs of baggage, and with mediocre tulips and roses already selling in the markets for £5 each, the private flower merchants can expect to turn at least £1,000 profit on the trip to Moscow.

But this year, it is still 5 degrees centigrade below freezing in Georgia. The largely Muslim republic of

Uzbekistan, where the fields are normally thick with tulips at this time of year, is covered in snow. Even the Polish and Bulgarian exporters have been too snowbound to cash in on the impassioned demand in Moscow.

Almost 70 years of the Soviet state have done little to atrophy the Russians' competitive instincts, and the national shortage of flowers has simply inspired the would-be purchasers to greater efforts. People with private hothouses have been coming to Moscow's markets from over the Soviet Union, planning to make a quick fortune in this increasingly desperate market.

The official prices in the

state shops are steep enough. A single rose costs £1.40, a carnation costs £1, and the humble daffodil sells at 40p each. But at the state shops, stocks are limited, and the queues outside Harrods' sale.

The alternative is to try the peasants' markets, or the impromptu queues near the main railway stations.

At the peasants' markets the prices reach astonishing heights. The best quality "freshly arrived on Aeroflot today" (as the vendors insist), will cost up to £10 a rose tomorrow, the eve of Women's Day, Russian tradition has little time for the idea of one perfect rose. It's a case of the bigger the bunch, the better.

Haunting the queues in the state shops are the anti-fraud squad, trying to control the spivs who queue to buy flowers at controlled prices in the state shops, and then resell them at a vast profit.

But no one will be in the market for a dozen roses. Russian custom says that even numbers of flowers are unlucky, and reserve them for funerals. Five roses are customary, and 11 equals generosity.

The harsh winter means that most Russian women will have to be content with the humble daffodil, which could cause a few domestic difficulties. In Russia, yellow is the colour of betrayal.

لعلنا لا نأكل



In 1984 Central Government took new powers to control local authorities.

As the Government begins to use the powers it acquired under the 1984 Rates Act, it is worth remembering why this Act caused so much controversy when it was first presented to parliament.

Its most contentious feature was the power Central Government gained to ratecap local authorities.

Ratecapping means the Government can control the money any council can spend regardless of the effect upon local services.

Furthermore, if a council chooses to appeal against being ratecapped, the Government can also tell it exactly what it must spend its money on.

And voters in local elections who may feel a higher spending level is needed, can do nothing to change these decisions.

The stated intention of ratecapping was to hold down rates, and it would be surprising if such sweeping powers did not actually achieve this result in ratecapped areas.

But the question that needs to be answered is whether such powers are necessary or fair.

On a national basis, Central Government spending has increased 20 per cent faster than local spending, during the lifetime of the present government.

What's more, the government sponsored Audit Commission Report has found that the information Whitehall civil servants use to decide what local councils should spend is inadequate and out of date.

Not surprisingly, critics from all parties have predicted that ratecapping will complicate local finance and bring no real benefits.

In other words, the Rates Act is bad law even when judged by the government's own criteria.

But it has also given rise to other, more fundamental criticisms.

In 1984, Ian McCullum a former chairman of the Association of District Councils and a member of the Conservative party said of the Rates Act:

"These plans represent state intervention in local affairs on a scale unprecedented in this century."

Ted Heath, former Conservative prime minister said: "They are powers such as we have never taken before, even in two World Wars."

And the Local Government Chronicle declared: "(The Act) concentrates Government power to an extent unparalleled in this country since local authorities were created."

Such critics know that an increase of power at the centre means fewer democratic safeguards for us all.

On the 19th February this year Patrick Jenkin the Government minister responsible for ratecapping confirmed to the Times newspaper that the hit-list of councils to be ratecapped next year could be "considerably bigger" than this year.

He also admitted that Government policies were "leading to ever more centralist solutions."

Ratecapping makes no sense.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON RATECAPPING CONTACT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AUTHORITIES: BARKING AND DAGENHAM · CAMDEN · GREENWICH · HACKNEY · HARINGEY · ISLINGTON · LAMBETH · LEWISHAM · NEWHAM · SOUTHWARK · GLC · ILEA

Issued on behalf of the above authorities by the ALA

Filipino labour chief resigns

Manila: The Philippine Labour Minister, Mr Blas Ople, yesterday resigned from the cabinet of President Ferdinand Marcos, a day after the Foreign Minister, Mr Arturo Tolentino, was sacked.

Mr Ople's resignation followed a letter from President Marcos to him demanding explanation for remarks made at the weekend that the political system of the government depended upon patronage.

Labour Minister for 14 years, Mr Ople said in a letter to Mr Marcos that his remarks were intended to support a call "that the new discipline of public administration should strengthen the government's response to an era of crisis."

He said Mr Marcos's letter to him might constitute in the mind of the public an issue of presidential confidence and added: "I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my resignation from the cabinet at the president's pleasure."

Sources said Mr Marcos had still to act on Mr Ople's resignation.

Earlier, a leading opposition party attacked Mr Marcos for the abrupt dismissal of Mr Tolentino and described the move as the start of a crack-down on free debate.

Meanwhile a supreme court justice yesterday questioned President Marcos's order to detain two men who led protest demonstrations against his government.

In a two-hour session, Justice Claudio Teehankee heard a petition by the youths' lawyers, who are seeking to declare President Marcos's arrest powers unconstitutional.

Jose Virgilio Bautista and Leandro Alejandro, both 20, are being held indefinitely in an army camp. They were arrested on February 13 after police broke up a students' protest march.

Mr Tolentino: Abrupt dismissal

Vietnamese hit bases on Thai-Kampuchean border

Sihanouk's HQ comes under heavy attacks

From Nicholas Cumming-Bruce in Bangkok

Vietnamese troops yesterday launched artillery bombardments and infantry assaults on the headquarters of Kampuchean resistance guerrillas, backing Prince Norodom Sihanouk, in a move to make a complete sweep of all resistance bases along the Thai-Kampuchean border.

Thai military sources said that 800 Vietnamese troops had pushed across Kampuchea's northern border into the Thai province of Surin and occupied three hills as part of their operation against the Sihanouk base at Tatum, and were engaged in fierce fighting with Thai forces sent to drive them out.

Several thousand Vietnamese troops, backed by Kampuchean forces of President Heng Samrin, may be involved in the attack, according to Sihanouk's officials, who claimed that their fighters had managed to hold off the attack five miles from the camp, inflicting heavy casualties.

Vietnamese troops had been reported moving up artillery from other sectors of the border to the south, but Sihanouk sources said their bombardment had not so far inflicted any damage on Tatum.

Independent confirmation of the Vietnamese incursion was not immediately available, but analysts had long predicted

that any Vietnamese assault on Tatum, perched on the edge of a steep and forested escarpment making a frontal attack difficult, would involve a flanking attack through Thai territory and the probability of clashes with Thai troops.

A successful Vietnamese attack on Tatum would not make a big difference to the resistance effort in Kampuchea after Hanoi's four month old offensive in which Vietnamese troops have smashed all the main bases of the other two factions in the resistance coalition, the Khmer Rouge and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front.

Some 50,000 Khmer civilians at two evacuation sites just beside the border have been moved deeper into Thailand after several inhabitants were wounded by stray gunfire from the fighting at Samor Changan.

The Vietnamese attacks coincided with the arrival in Bangkok yesterday of the Australian Foreign Minister, Mr Bill Hayden, who is touring East Asian countries and will be going later this week from Thailand to Vietnam, via Laos.

The fighting provided an inauspicious start to this leg of his tour in which he was expected to renew Australia's offer of its good offices in promoting a rapprochement over the Kampuchean issue.



The face of resistance: two rocketmen of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front wait for the Vietnamese attack that was to overrun their headquarters. Today it is the turn of the Sihanouk forces to face the Vietnamese

22 dead in India election violence

NEW DELHI: Twenty-two people died yesterday in outbreaks of violence during the second and final round of state elections in which first results showed a clear lead for the ruling Congress (I) party.

The United News of India news agency said that the deaths occurred in clashes, bomb explosions and at polling booths where security forces opened fire to restore order.

UPI said 16 people died in eastern Bihar, where 30 others were killed in violence on Saturday, the first day of the elections.

In northern Uttar Pradesh, three people were killed yesterday while three others died in political feuding in southern Andhra Pradesh, a bastion of opposition to Congress (I).

Election clashes have claimed about 50 lives in various states where thousands of troops were put on alert to try and ensure a peaceful ballot.

The state-run All India Radio said that the Congress (I) party was forging ahead in central Madhya Pradesh and maintaining its majority in the Uttar Pradesh and Bihar assemblies. The party is led by the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

The local polls were seen as a test of Mr Gandhi's popular support after his national election win in December.

Of the 87 seats declared so far in Madhya Pradesh, Congress (I) candidates won 75, with the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party winning 10, the Janata Party one and an independent candidate one.

The turnout was reported to be high in Bhopal, the Madhya Pradesh state capital and scene of the world's worst industrial disaster last December when a poisonous gas leaked from a pesticides factory, killing 2,500 people.

Of six results announced yesterday in Uttar Pradesh, Congress (I) candidates won four assembly seats, and in Bihar Mr Gandhi's party was leading in 35 state constituencies where counting was well underway. Results in Andhra Pradesh, ruled by a regional party, Telugu Desam, are not expected until today.

Meanwhile, the president of the Janata party, in Punjab, Mr Harchand Singh, was arrested yesterday on preliminary charges of promoting communal discord, police said.—AP/Reuters.

Ugandan detention camps on increase

Five detention camps for the interrogation of civilians have been set up in Ugandan military intelligence since Christmas. They are around the Luwero area where there is fierce fighting with rebels.

Many thousands of those who have died since President Obote's death in October 1980, were displaced people in camps set up by the military to create a fire-free zone in the Luwero triangle. By early 1984, there were 36 camps with more than 125,000 people, mostly Baganda peasants. Now only three small transit camps remain.

The new camps appear to be more selective in their intake than the old ones. They have been set up "since the beginning of 1985 to house political prisoners from various parts of the country," according to Amnesty International, although the army's Uganda National Liberation Army, has no legal right to arrest or detain civilians.

The camps are at Katikamu, Boma, Kabungata, Bukomera, and Mityana. There is also a detention centre at Luwero police station.

The camps are not easily reached since they are mostly on the fringes of the war-torn Luwero district. The National Resistance Army guerrillas, led by the former defence minister, Mr Yoweri Museveni, have been based for the past four years.

The creation of the detention camps follows the failure of the codenamed Final Offensive by the UNLA to wipe out the NRA guerrillas late last year. Hundreds of people, including many boys, were then interned in random security sweeps in December and January. These sweeps are nicknamed panda gari (put them in a car).

"You can't put a number on those detained because the army takes them in and kills them or sends them to the camps. Some are released and some stay for months," said a senior Ugandan politician who was unwilling to give his name.

At any one time there were about 60 people at Mityana camp, but up to 20 people had been held in random security sweeps in December and January, he said. "They are trying to get information where the guerrillas are or where they are coming from."

The camps are said to be controlled by an anti-guerrilla unit, known as the Special Brigade, which is responsible for operations in the Luwero triangle. President Obote is said to have given Lt Colonel Egore, the unit's commander, final authority in security matters, even over other ministers and intelligence agencies.

But Mr Obote has recently criticised the Colonel for rounding up too many civilians supposedly linked to the guerrillas.

Those arrested individually are mainly from the Democratic Party (the legal opposition) and those picked up by panda gari can be anybody, the politician said.

The worst affected areas are Bunyoro where the NRA last year captured the towns of Masindi and Hoima, and Buganda where the NRA recently overran the army barracks at Kabamba.

Reports from the new detention camps come barely a week after the US State Department reiterated its criticism of Uganda's human rights record. Its annual report on human rights to Congress estimated that 50,000 people had been forced from their land in the Luwero area since 1981 and that "tens of thousands have died as a result of insurgent terrorism and government counter-operations."

Teargas fired after Bhutto man is hanged

From Alex Brodie in Islamabad

Police fired teargas to disperse mourners after a former political activist, who has been in jail for four years, was hanged yesterday.

Nasir Baluch, aged 44, walked to the gallows inside Karachi's anti-military shoguns, including "long live Bhutto," prison sources said. He was hanged dawn after the failure of several appeals to General Zia for mercy from among others, nine newly-elected members of the provincial and national assemblies.

It was the first execution of a political nature in Sind — the heartland of anti-regime feeling — since General Zia seized power.

Baluch was arrested after the hijacking in March, 1981, of a Pakistani airliner, carried out by Al-Zulfikar, the organisation founded by two sons of the former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, to avenge his hanging by the military regime.

Two years after his overthrow, Baluch was a member of the Middle East and the Pakistan People's Party, founded by Mr Bhutto. After two years in jail he was tried by a secret military court in September, 1983, he

was convicted of abetting the hijacking and sentenced to death. Four co-defendants were sentenced to long prison terms.

However, the court verdicts were changed. The military regime asked the court to reconsider, and it obliged by handing down four death sentences and one prison term, which were announced last November.

A few days ago, elections out of the way, General Zia finally responded to their final petitions. The prison sentences were reinstated but Baluch was issued with a "black warrant."

On the eve of his hanging the gates of Karachi's gaol were closed. Several political prisoners who had managed to smuggle out a jointly-signed appeal for Baluch's life were tried under the provisions of the PLO-which implies though does not spell out Palestinian recognition of Israel—will help convince the US to change its position.

Two senior PLO officials left here for Tunis on Monday night with the Jordanian proposals but it remains to be seen whether the suggested changes will satisfy Palestinian hard-liners.

The amendments are in clauses two and five of the agreement, which deal respectively with the questions of self-determination for the Palestinians and of who would participate in an international peace conference.

The changes proposed by Amman give further emphasis to self-determination and say specifically that all Arab parties to the Middle East conflict will be involved in peace negotiations.

The five-day visit by the team from the Frimatome company follows an agreement reached during the Prime Minister, Mr Feroz, visit to Paris last December.—Reuters/AP.

The last executions with political overtones were in Punjab, where three young men were hanged in Punjab. They were alleged to have been associated with the Al-Zulfikar organisation.

Israeli soldiers in new terror raid on Shi'ite village

From Julie Flint in Tyre

Israeli troops firing into the air from armoured vehicles yesterday raided yet another Shi'ite Muslim village in occupied south Lebanon.

The village, Sila'a, was in mourning for a teenage boy who died—reportedly of fright—when the Israelis made a brief incursion the preceding day.

The UN spokesman in south Lebanon, Mr Timor Golsel, said that 30 Israeli soldiers entered Sila'a at dawn, assembled all male villagers for questioning and departed with three of them eight hours later.

Earlier, local people had delivered to UN peacekeepers in the village the body of a man who, they said, was killed in an overnight attack on a nearby Israeli post.

In Beirut, the Lebanese Government stepped up its efforts to win international backing.

THE Royal Dutch airline, KLM, said yesterday that it would no longer fly via Beirut to Amsterdam and Damascus as it could not guarantee the safety of passengers and crews in the Lebanese capital.—Reuters.

for a resolution at the UN Security Council condemning Israel for "inhumane military operations" in south Lebanon.

The Prime Minister, Mr Rashid Karama, contacted the secretary-general of the Arab League who is on a visit to New York to ask him to intervene directly with the Council. Mr Karama also contacted the Nonaligned Movement and the secretary-general of the Islamic Conference.

Shi'ites chanting "Death to Israel" took to the streets of Beirut yesterday to protest at the bombing of Monday of a mosque in Maarakah that left 12 people dead.

The 33-month-old Israeli occupation of south Lebanon has never been benevolent. But Jerusalem's new "iron fist" policy, now entering its third week, has taken the occupation to new depths of calculated brutality and arbitrary interference in the words of one diplomat whose country contributes troops to the UN peacekeeping force and who himself travels there often.

On Monday, Israeli soldiers broke into the largest hospital in Tyre and detained 28 people, including blood donors and a man who was admitting his pregnant wife. Yesterday, the group, headed by Mr Ali Sharafeddin, aged 35, told the story to reporters in Tyre.

He said he was bound, blindfolded, and taken to an interrogation centre where Israeli soldiers repeatedly kicked him, blackening one eye, disjuncting his nose and bleeding him. The detainees were held overnight in a steel container.

"It was like an animal house. There was one light on all night and a bucket for a toilet. The blankets were drenched with water and urine," Mr Sharafeddin said.

Before being released, the detainees had to pose for a photograph. They were ordered to "smile."

The director of the hospital, Dr Ahmed Mroue, said he was forced into a basement operating theatre at gunpoint and beaten senseless by an Israeli officer. It was he said, "his third ordeal."

There has been another, almost unnoticed victim of the occupation. Hassan Kubaisi, the 11-year-old boy shot by an Israeli foot patrol near the village of Brika, as reported yesterday, has died of his wound. He was shot between the eyes with a sniper's rifle, at a distance of less than 100 yards. So unsurprising is this kind of incident in south Lebanon these days that he rated only one line in one newspaper report.

Reuters adds from Beirut: The Syrian Vice-President, Mr Abdel-Halim Khayyat, a veteran mediator between Lebanon's rival factions, was expected yesterday to discuss Muslim demands for long-delayed reforms and reconsideration of 161 laws passed by the previous government under special powers.

Mr Khaddam met President Gemayel and Mr Karami in Mr Gemayel's village home at Bikfaya.

Meanwhile, radio stations said shelling began in hills above Beirut where Lebanon's army faces Druze-led forces.

Sources in the right-wing Christian Phalangist party said the Lebanese Forces militia yesterday freed 50 Syrians, some of them soldiers, after years of captivity.



Iron fist: Lebanese 'suspects' seized in the Israeli raid on a Tyre hospital lie strapped and blindfolded atop an armoured personnel carrier. Among those held were blood donors and a man accompanying his pregnant wife

Mubarak to press Reagan on PLO role

From Ian Black in Amman

Jordan and Egypt are in "complete agreement" that only the PLO can represent the Palestinians in any future Middle East peace negotiations and hope that President Mubarak will be able to convince the US to accept this view when he goes to Washington later this week.

According to well-placed sources here, the role of the PLO and the next step in the search for peace will be the main subject of talks between the Egyptian leader and King Hussein of Jordan when they meet at the Red Sea resort of Hurgada today.

It will be the first meeting between the two Arab heads of state since President Mubarak suggested last week that the US should confer with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian negoti-

ating team as a first step to talks with Israel.

A senior Jordanian official confirmed yesterday that King Hussein had not known in advance of Mr Mubarak's proposals, which were first made public in a newspaper interview. They initially caused surprise and anger here.

"It made things a little difficult for a while because it supplied ammunition to our adversaries who said: 'Well this is just another Camp David,'" the official said. "But President Mubarak did not mean to give a premeditated statement. He was just answering questions."

The official stressed that the agreement between Jordan and Egypt about how best to pursue Middle East negotiations was merely tactical. Step-by-step talks—as favoured by Cairo—and a full scale international conference involving

members of the UN security council and all parties to the conflict, which is Jordan's preference, were simply different paths to the same goal, he said.

Jordan is hoping that its recent agreement on a joint negotiating strategy with the PLO—which implies though does not spell out Palestinian recognition of Israel—will help convince the US to change its position.

"First and foremost, we hope that this diplomacy is understood by the United States and that their understanding will be given a practical, not only a verbal expression," the official said. "There are some indications that make me optimistic that Washington will be more forthcoming as far as the PLO is concerned."

The official said that Jordan had agreed to amendments in the text of the February 11

agreement with the PLO that could help clarify ambiguities that had led to criticism of the pact from within the guerrilla organisation.

Two senior PLO officials left here for Tunis on Monday night with the Jordanian proposals but it remains to be seen whether the suggested changes will satisfy Palestinian hard-liners.

The amendments are in clauses two and five of the agreement, which deal respectively with the questions of self-determination for the Palestinians and of who would participate in an international peace conference.

The changes proposed by Amman give further emphasis to self-determination and say specifically that all Arab parties to the Middle East conflict will be involved in peace negotiations.

South Lebanon tactics are defended

Jerusalem: Israel yesterday summoned foreign diplomats to explain its tough anti-guerrilla campaign in south Lebanon and accused the Lebanese President, Mr Gemayel, of provoking an increase in the violence.

The diplomats were ambassadors of UN Security Council members, or countries participating in the UN peacekeeping force in south Lebanon.

The Foreign Ministry director-general, Mr David Kimchi, told the envoys that guerrilla attacks on Israeli troops had increased since they were praised by Mr Gemayel. He

asked the diplomats to persuade Mr Gemayel to call for an end to the attacks, a ministry spokesman said.

"The Lebanese Government changed the rules of the game by condoning terrorist activity," the spokesman quoted Mr Kimchi as saying. "We know from the facts on the ground that this had an important influence. The Lebanese Government takes a heavy responsibility because violence begets violence."

In the past two weeks, Israeli forces have raided southern Lebanese villages, blowing up houses, expelling dozens of

people and killing suspected guerrillas.

Countries represented at yesterday's meeting were: Britain, the US, France, Denmark, Australia, Egypt, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Italy and the Netherlands.

Israel has asked the UN to veto any resolution condemning Israeli actions in south Lebanon but has not as yet received an answer, the spokesman said.

Mr Kimchi asked the ambassadors of countries with soldiers in the peacekeeping force to show understanding for the raids. He accused some of the countries of having interfered

Iran shells Iraqi port

BASRA: This southern Iraqi port city came under heavy shelling yesterday, at almost exactly the time Iran had warned that its forces would open fire.

The boom of artillery began shortly before 1700 and with shells being fired at the rate of two a minute.

The shelling was clearly audible in central Basra, but it was unclear initially where the shells were landing. Sirens wailed throughout the city to warn residents to take shelter.

Iran announced earlier yesterday that it would shell Basra, still heavily-populated despite past Iranian artillery attacks. Residents were given 12 hours to flee.

The Iranians said that they would shell the city because Iraqi warplanes attacked an oilfield near Basra and a steel complex in Iran on Monday.

Meanwhile, Iran told the UN yesterday that Iraqi attacks against its civilian areas had left it no alternative but to attack cities in Iraq.

Foreign Minister, Mr Ali Akbar Velayati, called the secretary-general, Mr Javier Pérez de Cuellar, that Iraq had failed to observe an agreement of June last year to halt attacks on civilian areas, according to the Iranian news agency Iran.

He said that indiscriminate attacks on non-military areas caused a new dimension on Monday when two Iraqi fighter planes attacked the city of Ahvaz, killing 11 people.—Reuters.

Sudan aid pledged

Khartoum: The US has pledged continued support for Sudan to help it solve some of its problems. President Numeiri said yesterday after talks with the US Vice President, Mr George Bush.

President Numeiri said Mr Bush brought home a message from President Reagan reiterating US support "and willingness to extend all assistance Sudan needs to solve its problems."

He said that Mr Bush's visit—He arrived on Monday at the start of a tour of drought-hit African countries that will also take him to Mali, and Niger—underscored close relations.

"Sudan, which receives about \$250 million in US aid annually, is plagued by trade and budget deficits of about \$9 billion and a simmering rebellion."

President Numeiri said that Mr Bush, in talks lasting two hours, briefed him on a "great project" the US planned for Sudan to boost agricultural output. He gave no details.

They also discussed African and Middle East developments. Sudan is strongly anti-communist, and closely aligned with Egypt, Washington's leading ally in the Arab world.

Washington and Khartoum also share security interests in the region, including opposition to Libya and Ethiopia. The Sudanese leader also told Mr Bush that an influx of hundreds of thousands of famine victims from neighbouring countries had added to Sudan's economic ills.—Reuters.

A runaway bus came over the hill

Mr Nicholas Ridley, racing neck and neck with Patrick Jenkin for the title of most Accident Prone Minister, has now gloriously achieved the unlikely distinction of a public scolding from the Commons Transport Committee with its inevitable built-in Conservative majority. The issue is whether Britain's buses should be deregulated to turn the country into a Hong Kong of bubbling enterprise with entrepreneurs dreaming up new cheap services and lifting the dead weight of State subsidy from the taxpayers' back. (The fact that Hong Kong has a highly regulated bus system should not detain us here.)

The Government's love affair with free markets in currency transactions has, of course, been quietly tempered. Mr Lawson is now the apostle of intervention. Why is it so very different on the buses? No-one doubts there is a problem. Subsidies have risen from £10 million to £520 million since 1972 as car ownership has increased. Since 1981 bus travel has fallen by 50 per cent as fares rose (more than inflation) trying to recoup lost revenue from vanishing passengers. The committee does not, though, believe that just because decline coincided with regulation that it has necessarily caused it. There are other causes, it says, like increased car ownership, inflated fares and lack of investment. Other countries manage better with higher subsidies and the committee has not exactly been bowled over by Mr Ridley's pet, pioneering experience in Hereford. Their experiment with competition, may initially have produced half a dozen operators, some competing to get to the bus stop first. But today all save one have fallen by the wayside.

It's the old story: private enterprise, naturally, is only interested in the profitable routes (like inner city to outlying housing estates) leaving an even bigger subsidy to be found for far-flung rural communities. If this is extended to most of the country, the committee rightly fears wasteful and unsafe competition (echoes of the chaotic 1980s which triggered regulation in the first place) accompanied by reduced coordination of timetables.

There is something fundamentally hypo-

critical about a Government which pleads free enterprise and poverty to remove subsidies from rural bus services weaving their way around farming country while continuing to support the farmers themselves by pumping billions into the industry, protecting it from foreign competition through high tariffs and buying up unsold surpluses.

There is, of course, a place for initiatives from the private sector, more genuine competition between both sectors, particularly on longer routes, and more scope for private operators to bid (say) for a five-year franchise against existing public operators. The entrepreneurial response of the National Bus Company to increased competition — lower fares and better service — has been a welcome breeze. But the jump from limited competition to an unfettered regime would produce profits for the few at the expense of increased subsidies for the dispossessed. We should be thankful that the Transport Committee has sounded a timely non-partisan warning. As for Mr Ridley, he has done damage enough. Perhaps it is time for Mrs Thatcher to exercise the ultimate right of the free marketer to dispose of a troublesome servant before the party as well as Mr Ridley is finally run over by this wonky omnibus.

February fits after all

There are great rolling themes to politics: like the Ring cycle of the miners' strike. And there are small, tinkly tunes. This is a small tune; but it has had lots of politicians hopping over the past few days. On Friday night, Mr Brian Walden and his Weekend World team unveiled a special Mori poll. This showed — on screen — that lots of people were worried about the Division in the country and wanted a government that was good at Healing. Sundry ministers and shadows were thus put through their healing and divisive paces. But, though Mr Walden didn't get round to mentioning it, that same poll showed Labour two points ahead of the Tories, with the Alliance falling back badly. Predictably, what the programme didn't say caused much more of a Westminster flurry than what it put up front. Moulds were breaking afloat all over the place.

Yesterday, however, we had another poll: also from Mori. This shows the Tories still four points in the lead, with Labour on 35 per cent and the Alliance at 24. Absol-

utely in line with other recent polls, including our own Marplan index: which (saving a long letter from Mr Robert Worcester of Mori) would seem to tag the Weekend World effort as a blip of aberration. So the mould is no way shattered. There is, rather, a documented and intriguing continuum. Mrs Thatcher is sliding in popularity. Mr Kinnock's sliding, too, though his party's support has steadied a little. And the Alliance — with the two most popular leaders — poised for a stroke of byelection luck. But the details of Mori change in February add a dash of spice to this as yet unbolting pot. It is not, in simple terms, the miners that dragged the Tories down. It is the plunging pound and rising interest rates and mortgages and fears of renewed inflation: balanced, always, by an overwhelming choice of unemployment as the dominant issue. As Mr Scargill, for the moment, takes a last, ragged curtain call, the overriding issue of elections past and elections to come has already taken his place at centre stage: the pound in people's pocket, and how much of it is left when the bills have been paid. For Mrs Thatcher, in the coming months, Nigel Lawson is the issue.

Molesworth's pass laws

The right to move around one's own country without an internal passport, Aneurin Bevan once argued, is the most precious of all freedoms. But the police decision not to permit cars without official identity discs to approach the area of RAF Molesworth shows just how far that right is being eroded. In practice, of course, such restrictions are part of the weaponry of any state. Laws were passed after the Black Death to stop agricultural labourers moving around the country in search of work; after the Napoleonic wars, the Vagrancy Acts controlled the movement of demobilised soldiers; today, the Prevention of Terrorism Act ensures that Irish people cannot freely travel between Britain and Northern Ireland. But at least these restrictions were or are laws of the land. What is happening now is that the police are setting the rules, and defying anyone to challenge them.

The miners' strike has provided meaty examples of the police's appropriation of control over freedom of movement. In spite of a court ruling which said that road blocks against pickets were only justifiable where an imminent breach of the peace

was anticipated, there has been a standing police "intercept" policy on the roads of the working coalfields. The police have consistently turned back anyone whom they considered might be a picket (and have arrested them for obstruction if they have tried to continue). More than 185,000 people were turned back in the first six months of the dispute. By contrast, stupendous numbers of police have been deployed to ensure that miners who wished to work were able to do so. The right to work, as such, is meaningless without a right to get to work. So are the rights to picket and to assemble meaningless without a right to get to a picket or an assembly point. But the police have decided that only the right to work is worth enforcing. Movement for other purposes will be blocked.

Now it is the turn of protesters against nuclear weapons. Not content with evicting them from the base, the police are now deciding who shall have the freedom to get near to it, for whatever purpose. Local residents are okay, assuming they are not Hilda Murrells, and providing that they display their police identity passes. British and American servicemen, of course, may travel the lanes without hindrance in their missile launchers. But if all that you want to do is to come and bear witness against nuclear weapons, forget it. The chief constable of Cambridgeshire says so. Parliament has had nothing to do with it. Not even the Police and Criminal Evidence Act, passed by parliament but not yet in force, provides such powers. To be sure, it contains new road blocking provisions, but not even they confer the vast discretion over free movement which the police are now claiming. But next time you go to Molesworth, don't worry. It's only a simple administrative convenience for law enforcement. Ordinary people are grateful that these controls are in force. It's only the civil liberties lobby who are kicking up a fuss.

East, West, second guessed

The West German Foreign Minister's hurriedly arranged visit to Moscow this week was merely puzzling before the event, but looks distinctly counter-productive after it. If Mr Genscher thought on arrival that the impending Soviet-American arms talks presaged an early thaw in relations between Bonn and the Warsaw Pact states he was swiftly disabused. Instead of disposing

of long-standing Russian charges of "militarism" and "revanchism" against West Germany, he was accused of complicity in the American "Star Wars" project. And if he hoped for profit for his embattled Free Democratic Party in Sunday's regional elections at home, he departed empty-handed.

His cool reception shows that the recent keynote speech by the Chancellor, Dr Kohl, which was intended to dispose once and for all of the revanchism charge, has missed its mark. At first sight Dr Kohl's long overdue reaffirmation of Bonn's adherence to its 1972 treaty undertakings to Poland and Russia to accept all existing boundaries in Europe seemed to be very much on the right lines. Unfortunately in the same speech the Chancellor also reaffirmed that in his view the German question remained open. As Dr Kohl subsequently explained in an interview with the weekly Die Zeit, "Because we have no peace treaty [after the Second World War] nobody today can finally bind the Germans; that is the legal aspect. The incalculable human aspect, the day-to-day political aspect is however that we want peace and understanding with Poland."

How are we to reconcile Bonn's acceptance of all existing frontiers (not excluding the inter-German one) with the abiding openness of the German question? Elementary, my dear Warsaw: look at the preamble to the West German constitution, which calls upon "the entire German nation to achieve the unity and freedom of Germany in free self-determination." It is the Federal Republic, the state occupying the western half of the former Reich, which recognises the present shape of Europe, not the divided German nation, which has never been asked. Now if West Germany were one day to be subsumed into a reunited German nation-state (by peaceful negotiations, of course, as Dr Kohl insists), the Federal Republic would fall away and so, presumably, would all its treaties. All this may seem entirely logical to a German legalistic mind, but to the Poles in particular, who now occupy about a quarter of 1937 Germany, it looks like an inherent contradiction and therefore a threat, and it demonstrably suits the Russians to see it the same way. If Dr Kohl is to succeed in reviving European détente in the wake of Soviet-American progress on arms, he will have to shelve his German question altogether. Mr Genscher, meanwhile, would be well advised to draw on his long experience as Foreign Minister and put in much more homework before his next descent on the Kremlin.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Coal Board's delusions of super-judiciary grandeur

Sir,—It's a sad fact about Britain today that there are undoubtedly a number of people—and I would unhesitatingly place myself among them—who would be willing to do a stretch in gaol if it meant that by some convoluted and highly improbable outcome they were able to get a job at the end of it.

Freedom, it seems, loses some of its gloss when people are forced to lead highly restricted and unfulfilled lives through lack of earnings due to unemployment. The case was well argued back in 1958 by Sir Isaiah Berlin in his essay, Two Concepts of Liberty.

The NCB in Scotland, by its refusal to allow an amnesty to miners who have been sacked during the strike, must thereby see itself as possessing super-judiciary powers.

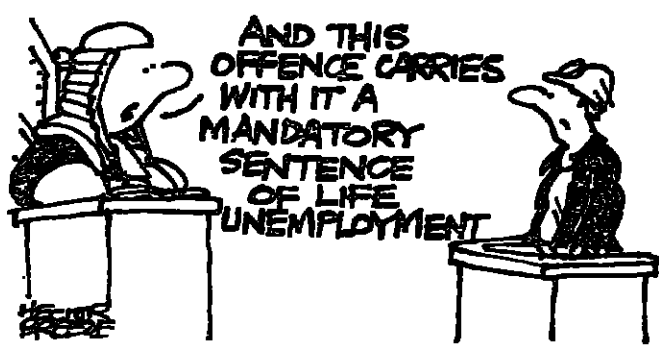
If someone has been tried and convicted in a criminal court, by all accounts they have done sufficient to be deemed to have "paid their debt to society," and there's an end to it. No where has it been recorded that the court has also directed the employer to make the of-

fender pay for the rest of his or her life by compensating him or her to economic death.

Or have miners who have been convicted of assault, theft, criminal damage, or even GBH been placed somehow on a par with, say, the teacher convicted of interfering with the kids and is therefore no longer able to carry on in the profession?

Let's also jettison this silly distinction between trivial and more serious crimes, which appears to serve some people as a moral escape route. It was truly astonishing—even for someone like me who's been a member of the Labour Party for 20 years or more—to see our deputy leader, Roy Hattersley, currying with Energy Minister Peter Walker's view that there is absolutely no question of miners who've been convicted of more serious crimes ever being employed again by the NCB.

Our modern concept of justice requires that there should be some measure of parity or balance between the redress a person is expected to make and the amount of damage he/she is



deemed to have caused. Indeed humane punishment is based on the idea that offenders should be given the chance to "mend their ways" and the possibility of hope in the future. Consigning people to the dole queue contravenes this on both counts.—Yours faithfully, John Gale, 87 Mill Close, Settle, North Yorkshire.

Sir,—In refusing to reinstate miners sacked for strike-related activities, the NCB is adding one more thorn to some prospectively prickly industrial relations. In the past, collieries have

"saved" the jobs of men imprisoned for a wide variety of crimes until their release from prison, as all responsible employers should do. Now the coal board chooses to operate double standards in the case of offences arising from frustrations caused by the board's own policies on pit closures.

Surely an amnesty can be arranged, considering that before Sunday's vote, some such miners were offered reinstatement if they would cross the picket lines and go to work.—Yours hopefully, John Bamister, 24 Albert Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham.

Sir,—Further to your table (March 4) analysing the charges faced by miners, would you please publish a similar table for the police involved in the strike?—Yours faithfully, I. Harris, Bushey, Hertfordshire.

Sir,—In his account of the civil liberties and policing aspects of the miners' dispute, Stephen Cook seriously underestimates the attacks which have taken place during the past year.

We have seen the whole operation organised by an unaccountable Police National Reporting Centre, staffed and controlled by an unaccountable Association of Chief Police Officers. This has mobilised thousands of riot-trained police to picket lines, but has also wreaked havoc in many mining villages. Local police authorities have been powerless to control these developments.

At every level there had been serious abuse of police powers. In London we have monitored the regular collections for the miners, recording weekly incidents of

police harassment, often misleading collectors about the law and threatening them with arrest when all they wished to do was organise solidarity within the law.

Two major demonstrations on June 7, 1984 and February 24, 1985—were handled in an extremely provocative manner. In the latter case police completely overreacted, pouring in reinforcements and mounted police to an area where people were simply demanding first information about two miners arrested, and later their release. Serious abuses are alleged to have occurred in police stations.

We have learned one very important thing: the value of monitoring. Sheffield Police Watch has set us an example. However, judging from the response to our appeal for information from witnesses of the police operation and arrests on February 24, many people have taken this lesson to heart.—Yours sincerely, Cathie Lloyd, Cities of London and Westminster Public Order Research Group, London W1.

Secrets the spies don't even tell a Tory government

Sir,—It is remarkable, given the yards of spy thrillers the British consume, that your recent article on the psychology of Apartheid, he would realise that such apparent carelessness is in fact a deliberate ploy. Its aim is to create anxiety; to inhibit willingness to communicate; and to create an atmosphere of mistrust and what Mr Lambley calls "psychological terrorism."

Surely no one seriously believes that our real intelligence agencies are going to tell the Home Secretary whom they have under surveillance? Would there long be any secret intelligence agency if such a casual figure, dependent on the whims of a prime minister and the vacillation of the electorate, was given such information?

Surely no one seriously believes that anyone with political pretensions does not have their phone tapped? If your MP does not it would, I believe, be strong grounds for reselection next time round.

As for some of the effects your correspondents describe, either to explain away their doubts (branches in the wires) or their fears (clicks and pauses) one must conclude that there are a large number of other bodies also wire-tapping Dr Collier (Letters, March 2) must have been a stenographer from Alternative Medicine in his garden shed.

We may be behind parts of the world in electronic technology, but not that far behind. Yours sincerely, (Dr) P. J. Gerratt, 22 Elm Walk, Radlett, Hertfordshire.

Sir,—On February 21 and most of February 22, I made numerous attempts to contact my friend by telephone with no success. Then my line went dead.

On contacting British Telecom, I was told it would need to gain access to deal with the matter, and I arranged for an engineer to call on February 26 between 3 and 4 pm. At 3.45 on that day my telephone, as if by magic, was restored to life; no engineer had called.

Odd, perhaps. Yet even odder is the fact that the friend I had been trying to contact is the widow of the late Harry Newton.—Yours, Carole Underwood, 4 Ashdown Close, Moseley, Birmingham.

Sir,—Patrick Renshaw (Guardian, March 2) makes a common mistake in assuming that clumsy opening of mail on the part of the security services is a sign of their inefficiency. If he were to read the psy-

chiatrist Peter Lambley's account of the South African security services' methods in a book called *The Psychology of Apartheid*, he would realise that such apparent carelessness is in fact a deliberate ploy. Its aim is to create anxiety; to inhibit willingness to communicate; and to create an atmosphere of mistrust and what Mr Lambley calls "psychological terrorism."

Mr Lambley's description of the Nationalist government's methods of entrenching itself after the 1954 election is essential reading for anyone who wishes to understand the political strategy of the present Government.—Yours faithfully, Philip the Highest Organisation of the Bolshevik Party before the Russian Revolution, Cherry Tree Cottage, Birdham, Chichester.

Sir,—There is another moral to the story of Harry Newton, with whom I—as a former Fircroft College student and trade union studies tutor—had a passing acquaintance and who it would never have occurred to me to think of as an MI5 agent.

Effective agents can maintain their cover only if they are seen to be part of the organisation(s) in which they are working. The classic case, surely, must be that of Malinovsky, an agent of the Tsar's MI5 who was a member of the highest organisation of the Bolshevik Party before the Russian Revolution.

When suspicion fell on him it was Lenin who rebutted the charges; and it was only after the revolution that the files of the old regime's secret police revealed that he was indeed their man.

It would seem that to be of use to their masters, agents may have to be of use to the more use to the movements they infiltrate, though there is a distinction between those who report and those who are also provocateurs. In the case of the Malinovsky story, it is worth noting that though Lenin was taken in by him, the Russian Revolution, led by Lenin, was not thereby prevented.—Yours sincerely, Dave Goodman, 12 Meaford Road, Barnston, Staffordshire.

Sir,—Will you please inform everyone that I did not know Harry Newton.—Yours, etc., Robert Turpin, 4 Westbourne Road, Faverell, Plymouth.

Sir,—I note E. P. Thompson's call (Letters, March 2) to set up in each community "watch committees of well-respected local citizens and representatives of social and trade union organisations and the peace movement, to defend our liberties."

Would not an historically appropriate title for these bodies be "committees of public safety"—Yours in the shadow of the guillotine, J. R. Dixon, Epsom, Surrey.

Hidden shackles the BBC can't seem to shake off

Sir,—In your coverage of the BBC's claim for an increased licence fee and your Leaders on telecommunications policy one crucial question has gone unasked. I find that surprising. That question is: how do we extend the freedom of the broadcaster?

Those who plead for the maintenance of public service broadcasting in its present form prefer to hide its shackles. Our broadcast is far from free. The recent row over 20/20 Vision told us that. Unheard rows are worse. When Panorama made two programmes about our security services a few years back, paroxysms of anxious scrutiny were generated, culminating in a request from the then Director-General to the reporter for a personal interview. The reporter was told that the politicians were worried, so the BBC had to worry too.

Broadcast journalists should know that freedoms limited by law are safer than the discretionary powers of men and women defending

their institution against yet another tier of discretionary power above them.

Yet the BBC continues to choose the kneeling posture and the begging bowl. During a recent licence round a junior broadcaster minister actually twitted a BBC representative on TV that the corporation was going to have to "believe" or else. That was a shrewd, indiscreet but it is no doubt reflected the truth. We read in a Sunday newspaper that Mrs Thatcher thinks the BBC a "savage" institution. Maybe she does. She's entitled to her views. But an organisation that has to cover before a prime minister's personal opinion is not one to which to entrust the protection of our essential freedoms.

The controls over broadcasting are not just achieved by five-yearly bouts of nerves. Seats on the regulatory authorities are in the gift of governments. The authorities regulate in ways intractable to the public and often invisible to programme

makers. Will their future reputation, I wonder, exceed that of the long-forgotten Stationers' Company which, some 800 years ago, used to regulate printers and publishers under the direct control of the Secretary of State?

Television hasn't yet found the essential freedoms a mature public medium should have in a liberal society. The banal truth is that the best basis of independence is an independent income. To achieve this would mean a restructuring of the BBC, and that's what it seems unwilling to consider. Income from advertising might be the basis of a new freedom but that has been rejected. It has also rejected any suggestion that it might be funded by subscription. There are other more imaginative options which it derides. This large fish shows a complacent liking for the hook.—Yours, David Graham, Diverse Production Ltd, London W14.

Miscellany

Sir,—During the trial of Mr Posting it emerged that Sir Clive Whitmore's Department frequently prepares two versions of documents for the public one containing a somewhat approximate version of the truth, and the other a somewhat more approximate version.

May we now see the other version of the letter from Sir Clive which you published on March 2?—Yours faithfully, (Prof) D. B. A. Epstein, University of Warwick.

Sir,—On Saturday, I "paged the Oracle" to get the news summary and found the heading stripe on the menu page flashing in sequence: "Yorks' miners vote to continue 108. Miners: the politicians write 332.4. Platform: Dr David Owen writes 334."

Following this priority cue, I selected page 334 and found three pages of familiar Owenisms, followed by a direction to Peter Walker on 332. At the foot of page 332 was a direction to Stan Orme on page 333.

So, who selects Oracle's priorities? Or was it appropriate to be directed to the media's favourite oracle on Oracle?—Yours faithfully, D. B. Spilbury, Birmingham.

Sir,—Not for the first time your diary writer and "Rabbits" Gillick have got it wrong. The joke about reformed Jews is in fact a line from a Woody Allen routine, and is about reformed rabbis. Reformed rabbis being nazis is funny. Reformed Jews means nothing—a bit like the diary story. Yours, a reformed Guardian reader—I don't. Barry Fantoni, London SW 4.

Making a mockery of parole

Sir,—As solicitor for and on behalf of Ian Brady, I condemn the parole exercise mounted with maximum publicity by the Home Secretary.

The Home Office knows full well—because he has said so—again and again—that Brady does not want parole. To set in motion a so-called parole review obviously with no intention of granting parole and in the knowledge that Brady has renounced it, is a dishonest and cynical public-relations charade, and makes a mockery of the parole system.

Instead the Home Secretary should have the pleas made repeatedly to him for Brady to be transferred to a security hospital. His physical and mental condition has deteriorated gravely at Gartree where additionally he has been subjected to petty deprivations and humiliations.

The suspicion must be that the Home Office has launched the parole smoke-screen deliberately to obfuscate the real issue: the humane care and remedial treatment of a man who, by the coincidence of public opinion and personal volition, will spend the rest of his natural life behind bars.—Yours faithfully, Benedict Rimbey, 103 Rye House, High Street, London SE1.

Black side of the white list

Sir,—Despite the conspiratorial air adopted in your item (February 28) on the Government's plans to axe NHS drugs, the BMA is not "planning to cooperate with the Government in running the limited list." Nothing could be further from the truth.

Our position remains unaltered. We are opposed to the Government's proposals to introduce a blacklist of drugs our patients will no longer be able to obtain except by private prescription. We now see that the Government intends to go ahead with a white list of drugs which is so large as to make the much-vaunted savings of £100 million impossible.

Why then go ahead with this ill-conceived proposal? Does the Government wish to establish a principle before introducing other approved or disapproved—categories of drugs?

There is a much more serious issue which you have chosen to ignore. If for the first time the Government is allowed to alter the effects of primary legislation—in this case to cut back patients' rights under the NHS drugs bill which knows where it will end.

Therefore we still urge MPs to reject the DHSS proposals and allow us to work on a plan which will really save money on the NHS by cutting out wasteful dispensing.

We have always said that if, despite our warnings, Parliament changes the law we will obey it. That is what parliamentary democracy is all about. Under the new arrangements we would have to cooperate in order to look after the interests of our patients as best we could.—Yours faithfully, (Dr) John Marks, British Medical Association, London WC1.

Yes and no

Sir,—Your page seven today (March 4) contains both "The United States has ruled out any early resumption of talks with Nicaragua" and "The failure of the rebels... is expected to lead to an early resumption of talks between Managua and Washington."—Reliably yours, Tony Mills, Marlborough.

OXFORDSHIRE: Although snow-drifts still pick out hedgerows and stone walls in this upland area where the live, the glorious sunshine of a late February day brought spring to my garden at last devoid of snow. Crocuses and snowdrops buzzed with honeybees, cushions of cistus and other plants of the same habit were dotted with scores of ladybirds emerging from hibernation: two chafinches, a duncock and a mistle-thrush were in full song nearby; and then the hoped-for final touch was bestowed by a small tortoiseshell which drifted down to

alight on a starry, fully opened mass of lilac crocuses. Spring had also arrived, judged by another criterion, a few days earlier, for an acquaintance exclaiming in his garden nest-box in a nearby village, found that a robin was already sitting on a clutch of four eggs. The buzzing of bees on this recent idyllic spring day, as usual, aroused similar activity in those resident in my bonnet—the robin that periodically stir me to expose the absurdity of the notion that spring does not begin until the vernal equinox on March 21. This late start of

W. D. CAMPBELL

150 من الامم

SOCIETY TOMORROW

Wednesday March 8 1985 11

Left: Father Dominic Walker
Right: Chris Bray of the
Sorcerer's Apprentice - pic-
ture by Don McPhee

A way of tuning
in to a natural
creative force,
or a false
religion
that can lead
to fear?
Joy Melville
investigates
the witchcraft
boom

Spellbound

"BLACK MAGIC attack on church." "Devil worshippers return." "Satanists in church raids for black mass," read the headlines after two north London churches were desecrated and the consecrated sacrament, essential for a black mass, was stolen.

Witchcraft and black magic, as Denis Wheatley's considerable sales show, continue to fascinate. Newspaper accounts of bizarre happenings only reinforce most people's hazy ideas of sorcery. Last year, for example, a Cornish village was reported as being terrorised by an elderly witch who, it was claimed, cast spells of hate, and left dead hedgehogs daubed in red paint on a doorstep; in Somerset, "a black magic gang danced naked under a full moon"; while in Ireland there was a witness to "a witch queen and her coven performing naked rituals that 400 years ago would have seen them burned at the stake".

Reading about witchcraft is one thing. But a growing number of people in Britain

seem to be practising it. Numbers are hard to estimate: there's no witches' register. Five years ago, there were thought to be some 60,000 witches in Britain; today the number is estimated by some witches to have grown to 80,000. Prediction, the monthly magazine for astrology and the occult, has a circulation of 22,000. And Chris Bray, who ten years ago started the Sorcerer's Apprentice, now Britain's largest occult suppliers, deals with hundreds of orders each week and has some 20,000 rapt clients on his books.

He thinks interest is growing. But who are the new recruits, and why? "People who are taking up witchcraft and paganism are the type who are interested in ecology," he says. They tend to be slightly left wing, anti-nuclear, nature lovers, into saving animals. In his eyes, there is no danger. "They realise that a natural force exists which can be tapped to see what benefit it can bring them."

A witch himself, he resolutely defends witchcraft.

"Magic is a creative force and moulds people into being better, not worse. The danger lies in those who are charlatans, who manipulate to earn money or sex." Genuine occultists, he claims, have become very angry "when some gooks have attacked churches."

He refutes the black magic, sex, thrills image of witchcraft. "There are nutcases who use witchcraft as a front for their indulgences, but behind this there is a genuine pagan religion. Witches put themselves in tune with the psychic forces which run through our planet. Being in tune with your environment makes you more in tune with your life. You expand yourself through the creative power of nature. To do that, you observe the seasonal rites and witches' coven meetings link up with these."

The worship of the "life force," with its female (Moon Goddess) and male (Sun God or Horned God) aspects, generally, though not necessarily, involves the use of

ritual magic. This is where, to the uninvolved public, it all becomes mysterious, even sinister. Wearing magical "regalia," dancing "skyclad" (nude) to continue with nature, or carrying out a symbolic (or actual) sexual union to culminate a ritual is, to most, a step into fantasy.

Yet it is the mystery, secrecy and sense of daring that often attracts — that, and the lure of taking power into one's own hands. The idea of casting a spell over boss or lover, for instance (and "spellkiss for love's desire" are one of Chris Bray's big sellers), has a simple attraction. His catalogue of thousands of items includes image dolls (for love, hate, cures and curses) and crystal balls. Do people buy these for a joke, or as a serious first step into witchcraft?

Like "armchair Christians," there are "armchair occultists" who just want to dabble at home, via mail order, without going as far as joining a coven. But some of those who contact the Sorcerer's Apprentice, asking how to use techniques like a crys-

tal ball, are interested in going further. They are given free instructions and advice, but not put in touch with a coven right away. "No research covers will spoonfeed people who haven't learnt the basic principles of witchcraft," says Chris Bray. "We do a home study course and coach people along. We can then refer them to a group that can do them some good."

Over the 10 years he has been in business, he thinks that through occult healing he has "saved the lives of two or three dozen people who couldn't cope with society, were having great problems, had seen the doctor and clergy and still had not got out of the hell they were in."

The Church, on the other hand, puts in a counter claim that, in turn, has to rescue people from the effects of occult practices. Neither side pulls punches. Witches believe that occultism is not inherently evil, that this is a legend built up by the Church for political reasons. The Church, equally unequivocal, says that the occult is false

religion, chosen in preference to the true.

Father Dominic Walker, of the Church's Exorcism Study Group, set up in 1972 to investigate occult incidents, counsels about 200 occult "casualties" a year. He considers that the occult, like the drug crisis, has a hard and soft side. "At one end you begin with tarot cards, fortune telling, ouija boards; at the other are witches' coven groups, black magic and satanism."

As many problems come from the first category as the second. Some people come to him in fear, for instance, after fortune tellers have told them they are going to die. "And you can see how terrifying the tarot cards could be to someone who is damaged or very insecure."

He has also been called in to deal with a group of lorry drivers who had been playing with an ouija board during their rest periods in a transport cafe. The most terrifying things started to happen. They described how they felt forces entering into the cabs

of their lorries, trying to make them drive into oncoming traffic. They were "becoming very violent towards each other, or very dependent: it was bringing to the surface the problems of their own unconscious mind which they couldn't handle."

At the other end of the spectrum, Father Dominic is approached by people who say they have been involved in a coven and want to get out. Sometimes relatives come to him, aware their husband, wife or children are involved and anxious because they can see a change in behaviour.

"The danger is that a coven can come under the influence of a more powerful leader. This week I had a family with two members in a coven, too scared to leave it as they were afraid of being cursed. What was a reasonably happy family two years ago is now frightened and in debt. Another family which had joined a major satanist group had to move away and change their identity, they were so deeply involved and in such fear. They sometimes go through initiation sex rites,

are photographed, and then open to blackmail. We suggest those who have been involved in satanist groups make an act of renunciation." Church intelligence has accumulated evidence of a number of these groups in Britain.

Why does Father Dominic think people do get involved? "Sometimes it's just that people are far removed from any Christianity, yet have this inbuilt need to worship, so get caught up in an occult group. Once you stop believing in orthodox Christianity, you will believe anything. And some of these groups try to present themselves as being like a meeting of the Women's Institute."

Those who turn to witchcraft are obviously looking for something they find lacking in society, or orthodox religion. Today, it may be the attraction of nature and natural powers in an increasingly hi-tech world; the companionship and security that any group offers; or an attempt to control an increasingly uncertain future. Until they find it, witchcraft is filling the gap.



BODY AND SOUL

Light relief

AMERICAN psychiatrists are developing a theory that is likely to be a boon to the manufacturers of electric light bulbs and purveyors of SAD medicine. It is called SAD (seasonal affective disorder) and right now, you could call it winter blues.

The treatment for SAD sufferers is phototherapy, that is, bathing them in 2500 lux of full-spectrum, artificial light — the equivalent of standing by the window on a spring day.

The theory has the feel of traditional wacky American psychiatry, that breaks out every so often to flirt with serious ecology and physiology. But there is no doubt that people's moods swing to seasons and there is a substantial literature on chemical changes in the body as the circadian clock are reset.

The Americans claim to have identified people with a severe form of the winter blues which is linked to a seasonal increase in the secretion of melatonin, a hormone produced by the pineal gland (the organ near the centre of the brain where Descartes posted the Rational Soul).

The hormone appears to exert a considerable influence on reproductive activity, the oestrous cycle, for instance, and reducing the weight of the ovaries. Light slows its production. Some tumours of the gland in children can delay sexual development as though through a surfeit of melatonin, while damage to the gland may lead to precocious puberty — the same effect as blocking release of the hormone.

Short days, therefore, through a surfeit of melatonin and it is this biological effect of light variation that the psychiatrists are attempting to link to an unusual inner depression which is accompanied by lethargy, social withdrawal and inability to work properly.

SAD sufferers also overeat and crave carbohydrates, according to research workers

at the National Institute of Mental Health.

During the three previous winters they studied 34 people with severe winter-time blues. The patients were given either three hours of bright light at dawn and again at dusk, or five hours in the evening only. Thirty of them are said to have shown significant improvement in mood and behaviour after only four days on either regimen of phototherapy.

But this artificial springtime evaporated just as quickly when the treatment was stopped. As a control, the patients were also exposed to dim light which did not produce an antidepressant effect.

The Americans have got their teeth into this theory and are giving it a good shaking. Dr Norman Rosenthal, head of outpatient services at the institute's clinical psychology branch, gave oral melatonin to 10 patients who were having their blues dispersed by phototherapy.

Some of the symptoms returned — but not all — which suggests that the hormone is only partly responsible for mediating the depressive features of the disorder.

Dr Rosenthal believes that many people are affected by SAD although in a less severe form and may benefit from some modification of environmental light. So far, he says, he has received inquiries from 10,000 people who feel they have elements of the disorder or who have seen it in others.

Women sufferers outnumber the men, four to one.

There is scepticism in the British psychological community. One consultant at a London teaching hospital says that he knows of no evidence of an overall increase in depression in countries with fewer hours of sunlight. "Also, there is an increased incidence of suicide in the spring and a similar peak towards autumn — which does not seem to go along with the SAD theory. The Americans appear to have found a whole new group of depressives."

The occupational psychologists are scathing, describing SAD as a "flavour of the month syndrome, as for failure to work performance, which is too many factors related to depression for daylight to be given such prominence."

But Dr John Cloudsley-Thompson, professor of psychology at Birkbeck College, London, and an authority on biological rhythms, is a little more reflective. "I am sure that people are affected by the light-dark cycle, but I don't know I am. And the birds sing much more merrily in spring than they do in autumn."

He points out in his writings that most living things have innate periodicities which are synchronised with the daily, lunar and seasonal changes that take place in their normal environments. And that with the exception of the disorder, some algae lacking a discrete

nucleus, probably all organisms possess biological clocks. But he also says that some research workers assert that biological rhythms are independent of the environment for their fundamental timing.

Even so, there is a consensus that in the natural world light and temperature are conclusively linked to the circadian biological clock. It is possible, says Professor Cloudsley-Thompson, that other regularly repeated stimuli — noises, social cues, barometric pressure — may exert some effect.

But the development of electric light took humans out of natural circadian rhythms and desynchronised their biological clocks. The artificial light "might not be a terribly good thing. Trying to stay on a high like this might have to be paid for eventually. I would not want to see the state of affairs where people are kept on all night — this might be why we are ready for sex all the year round. Sheep and other animals have to wait for the right time."

The SAD theory seems to lack credibility at the moment because it is hung mainly on psychological manifestations rather than on biological explanation. But I have a hunch that with the fall-out in exercise faddery, the market is just about right for happiness and light therapy.

Peter Brock

Consultative groups can bring police and people closer. Larry Roach argues for cooperation

Really trying to assist with inquiries

SECOND OPINION

CHRISTIAN Wolmar's article "Not Assisting with Inquiries" (Society Tomorrow, February 13) compounds the confusion on police accountability. The police service is willing and anxious to maintain good relations with local government, at both elected and officer level. Public statements of senior police officers and the present Commissioner support this. All over the country co-operation and joint action is widespread and the police are being asked to review committees on child abuse and crime prevention panels.

Outside London such activity is facilitated by police authorities, on which local councillors sit charged under Section 4 of the Police Act of 1964 to "secure the maintenance of an adequate and efficient police force" for their area. As Christian Wolmar reports, the situation is different in London where the role of the police authority in relation to the Metropolitan Police is undertaken by the Home Secretary.

It is argued that the London situation has given rise to a political campaign to change the statutory relationship between the Home Secretary and the Metropolitan Police to one of control of the force by locally elected bodies. I recognise that the changes in the law and the constitutional position of the police advocated by the campaigners are a legitimate political objective within our democracy. So there can be no objection from a police officer to a political party or pressure group advocating such a change. Secondly, it is also proper for a London local authority to set up a committee of councillors to deal with police matters.

The problem for the police arises when such a committee is set up to pursue these political objectives, as is the case with the GLC Police Committee. And several other "GLC style" police committees now exist in London boroughs. For with the law as it is, the Metropolitan Police obviously cannot co-operate with committees dedicated to the usurpation of the Home Secretary's authority.

This would not be damaging to our efforts to continue to co-operate with local government, police forces, and has been jealously guarded and confirmed every time it has been re-examined, most recently by the Royal Commission on

through their police committees. It is that demand, and not the reason, Mr Wolmar supposes of the development of consultative "Scarman type" groups to be established under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act, that is causing difficulty for the police.

The GLC Police Committee, with its demand for control and direction of police activity in London, predates the development of consultative groups, having been established in May 1981 before the publication of Lord Scarman's Report on the Brighton Disorder, the immediate origin of the consultative idea.

Given statutory form on January 1, the consultative groups are to be independent of local or central government and of the police. In them councillors, MPs, the statutory agencies, and representatives of the local community will meet with their local police officers to form priorities for local policing in guidelines issued by the Home Secretary, binding on the groups, the scope of the matters to be discussed is wide and fundamental. Exception is made only where there is a conflict with the statutory responsibilities of other bodies, such as the Police Complaints Board. The field left open includes the operation of police procedures, improving relations between police and ethnic minorities, and the pattern of police complaints.

Our view is that the effect of the setting up of these groups in London will be that, henceforward, police divisional planning will begin by discussing priorities and objectives with the consultative groups. Thus the allocation of police resources may be determined jointly by the community and their local officers.

But it might reasonably be asked why the Metropolitan Police were not prepared to give that kind of access to the elected GLC style police committees?

The answer is that each police officer is personally responsible to the law, and to the law alone, for the exercise of his powers and duties. The constable's oath of office requires him to keep the peace and provide the protection of the law to the citizen "without favour or affection, malice or ill-will... faithfully according to law."

That independence precludes the establishment of professional, organised, police forces, and has been jealously guarded and confirmed every time it has been re-examined, most recently by the Royal Commission on

the Police in 1982. In his report, Lord Scarman reaffirmed his support for police independence.

The constable must be able to afford the protection of the law to all citizens at all times against any threat, including of course that posed by the unlawful actions of elected politicians. Indeed, it is a curiously unrecognised consequence of this independent standing of the constable that it represents the citizen's most important line of defence against a misuse of power by senior police officers — a safeguard arising from the dual role of police officers as both "members of a police force" and "constables."

Independent they may be, but constables do not make decisions solely on their own judgment. They seek to carry out their duties with the consent of the public. For the modern police officer recognises that without public support, effective policing is only possible by ever more draconian powers and increasing resort to oppressive methods. That is not the road the British police service wishes to take.

So we seek consent for what we do and for the methods we use. But from whom? For whatever action the officer does or does not take can be expected to arouse opposition from some group or individual.

Under our system of policing, what is needed, therefore, is a corrective on the solitary judgment of the constable which does not threaten his independence, but which makes him responsive to the needs and opinions of his people and to their judgment on his methods.

While it may not be the place of a serving police officer to take sides on the question of what Parliament should do about police accountability, it is surely right for a constable to draw attention to the threat to his independence posed by the proposal by the GLC Police Committee that "...most policing decisions would continue to be made by the officers on the ground, the individual police officer and his/her supervising officers. However, those decisions would be made under authority, a delegated authority which could be recalled, limited or extended at any time." (Policing London, Feb/March 1983).

Under that system, who would protect the citizen from the "manipulation and abuse of the law" which concerned Lord Scarman?

Larry Roach is Commander of the Community Relations Branch at New Scotland Yard.

Warm work? Joan Davidson wonders why local energy projects aren't brought into the mainstream of social policy



ECOLOGUE

IN JUST four years, local energy projects have become a success story. What began as a series of small experiments combining the goals of keeping people warm, creating useful work and conserving energy has become a recognised element of Department of Energy policy. Indeed, some would argue that this is the most tangible item so far in an otherwise lacklustre portfolio of domestic energy conservation measures from the Energy Efficiency Office.

Since the National Council for Voluntary Organisations began to lobby for them, over 100 community-based energy projects have started up around the country, and 100 more are planned, and are sponsored by local charities and use the local Community Programme to take on teams of 20-30 long term unemployed. Materials

costs are met from Department of Energy insulation grants and the DESS single payments for draught-proofing available to those on supplementary benefit.

With a persistent background campaigning by Neighbourhood Energy Action (the local projects' national co-ordinating agency) the EEO has doubled the number of grants from 200 to 400, and will be allocating grants for new schemes, with extra help for NEA to provide information, advice and training support.

It is a bargain at the price. York University's Social Policy Research Unit shows just how valuable the local projects are, not only in keeping people warm but in delivering other services too. Quality is high — many teams take time to call back and monitor their insulation work. They help in other practical ways — with small repairs, re-lamping, door mending, locks — or try to speed up council action on other renovations. Some projects run grass-mowing or gardening services in the slacker summer months.

It is this sensitivity to local needs that is the real and unique strength of these energy teams: they help families not only to claim insulation grants but often to make sense of a confusing array of other social services, as well as to bring fragmented pieces of the social policy jigsaw in a personal way that only a few local authorities with highly

decentralised services have so far managed to do.

Job satisfaction is high. Hall's local team HEAT has a growing network of past employees now working voluntarily. And the schemes have a good record of finding permanent jobs for their employees at the end of the MSC year, including projects like Cheltenham's WARMORE, which employs disabled people.

No wonder the EEO is pleased. Its modest investment is proving highly cost-effective in leveraging other funds: 100,000 homes insulated in record time, several thousands taken off the dole queue and trained in new skills.

But that should not disguise the real problems these projects face, nor mask what is needed to lift them out of marginality into the mainstream of social and environmental policy where they belong.

The scale is still small and the distribution patchy. Projects simply do not reach all those who need them. There are hardly any schemes in the north-west or outside large cities, although the cold and old live there too. More funding is needed for NEA to work with local agencies to seed new schemes and train personnel to run them.

There are far too few places on the MSC's Community Programme: some energy projects face cutbacks just when they should expand. Such is their success in creating jobs,

argues NEA, that a four-fold expansion of the CP is needed, to create 4,000 new places over the next two years. But there has to be greater flexibility for projects to plan ahead to keep their key staff for longer, to step up training and to spend more time on energy advice as well as insulation. There is also a need for developing arrangements for developing employees' business capabilities which would allow more of them to set up viable energy enterprises on their own. MSC rules stifle rather than encourage this.

Funding too is fragmented and uncertain. DESS draught proofing payments are under review. Many councils now have no money to back insulation grants, and the levels have not increased in three years in spite of soaring equipment costs and VAT now extended to insulation work. What is needed, say NEA, is a comprehensive energy efficiency grant, to reach all those who face fuel hardship, and to cover much more than roofs and draughts. It might also revive the sagging fortunes of Britain's (supposedly "sunrise") energy conservation industry.

And where are the fuel boards? Some support local energy projects with publicity, but they are a long way from US practice where fuel utilities, as well as government, finance insulation for low income consumers.

The future looks brightest

where neighbourhood projects are one element in a comprehensive local energy programme, as in Newcastle. Keeping Newcastle Warm, largest of all the local projects, has already insulated the homes of 10,000 low income families — still only a fraction of the estimated 40,000 that need help. KNW benefits from Inner City Partnership funding for its key management staff and works closely with a number of local agencies, pooling resources, sharing training sessions and playing a major role in the city's new walk-in Energy Information Centre, opening in May.

In Hackney, neighbourhood teams are working with the borough to run a Coldline — an emergency service for those at risk from hypothermia to be followed up with insulation and heating advice.

Last Saturday Peter Walker launched the latest local energy project — in his own constituency of Hereford and Worcester. Like the others, it will deliver much more than energy efficiency. But to carry on doing so his food PR. It is one of KNW's colleagues, including Lord Young and the Enterprise Unit — gave much more support to such an innovative and resourceful style of working.

Neighbourhood Energy Action is at 2-4 Bigg Market, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1JW. Tel: 0632 615677.

BRENT FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

Up to £20,667 + £907 London Weighting & Supplements
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As the current post-holder, Dennis Simpson, is leaving to become Social Services Director in Southwark, we are looking for someone with drive and enthusiasm to continue and develop our provision of integrated services.

Brent is a diverse borough with all the characteristics of the inner-city. Our people come from a variety of ethnic backgrounds and we have the largest proportion of black Asian and Afro Caribbean residents in the country. Our department is firmly committed to reviewing and changing all aspects of services in order to better meet needs, especially those of black consumers. We believe our approach provides integrated services which are responsive to individual needs and respect people's rights to choice and dignity.

The Assistant Director will be responsible for the fieldwork division and must also be able to work with other groups, with the flexibility to manage different kinds of services as these develop in the future. While making the most of the pace of change, the successful candidate must also be able to consolidate and encourage good systems. The department is committed to a policy of community care and this requires drawing together a range of resources at local level.

Candidates for this important post are asked to reflect on the above philosophy in their applications. If you think you can meet the challenge contact Valerie Howarth, Director of Social Services, for an informal discussion on 01-903 1400 ext. 220.

Application form and job description from the Personnel Division, Room 1, Brent Town Hall Annex, Kings Drive, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 9BR returnable 29th March 1985. Telephone 01-903 0371 (24 hour Ansafone service). Please quote reference number SS/2.

London Borough of

BRENT

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Biometrician Jamaica

The Caribbean Agricultural Research & Development Institute (CARDI) is an organisation involved in research projects conducted throughout Jamaica and surrounding islands.

Reporting to the Director of Research & Development, duties will be to assist with research, design and analysis of experimental results in areas in Jamaica, Belize and other territories in which CARDI is located; and assist in the development and the conducting of training workshops and seminars.

Applicants must be British Citizens and should be graduates of a recognised institution, preferably combined with at least five years experience in developing countries in the field of biometrics.

This appointment is on contract to the ODA for a period of two years on loan to the Government of Jamaica. Salary (UK scale) in the range £14,880 to £20,250 pa including an element in lieu of superannuation which will be added if ODA can continue payment into the candidate's existing scheme. A variable tax free Foreign Service Allowance, currently in the range £2,170 to £3,085 pa, according to marital status, is also payable.

Other benefits include paid leave, free family passages, children's education allowances, free accommodation and medical insurance.

For full details and an application form, please apply, quoting ref. ABBE/PM/TG, giving full details of age, qualifications and experience to: Appointments Officer, Overseas Development Administration, Room 30, Abercrombie House, Engleham Road, EAST KILBRIDE, Glasgow G75 5EA.

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT
Britain helping nations to help themselves

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Salary and Conditions of Service in accordance with the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Executives of Local Authorities (Revised October, 1984)

£25,462 — £28,008, plus fees and lump sum car allowance.

Blackburn is a north-west industrial town, rapidly completing the transition from the traditional to the newer technological industries: a transition actively supported through the Council's policies. As an Urban Programme Authority, there are numerous opportunities to aid the ethnic minority community, the voluntary social agencies and economic and environmental groups.

The present Chief Executive, Clifford Singleton, O.B.E., retires in May, 1985, and the Council is seeking a successor who can demonstrate:

- Top management experience and skills.
- Successful experience in industrial promotion, in lobbying and in encouraging private investment.

The new Chief Executive will be responsible for the Council's Equal Opportunities Programme, for the Urban Programme Authority and for the Performance Review function. He/She will maintain a close liaison with the wider field of industry, with public and regional bodies, and will lead the Chief Officers Group.

Further details are available from the Chief Executive, Town Hall, Blackburn, BB1 7DY, by letter or by telephone — 0254-55201, Ext. 370 or 371. Closing date: 20th March, 1985.

Borough of Blackburn

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

Information Officer

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This is a new post in the Chief Executive Officer's Department. The postholder will be responsible for the supply of information regarding the activities of the Council to the media, the general public, Council Members and employees. The duties of the post will include:

- Acting as a principal media contact for the Authority
- Researching and preparing detailed press statements and organising media briefings
- Advising Members and Chief Officers on the content of material directed to the public/press
- Co-ordinating the Council's Open Days and assisting with the research and planning of campaigns, exhibitions, receptions and other functions
- Co-ordinating the promotion of Norwich as a centre for industry, commerce, conferences and tourism

These duties will call for close contact with national/regional press, radio and television; as well as liaison with various outside bodies.

The successful candidate will be confident, have a mature personality, and will be a clear, audible speaker. Applicants must have proven journalistic and/or public relations experience, and will preferably have some experience of radio or television. The possession of a degree and the proficiency examination of the National Council for the Training of Journalists is desirable; and a certificate from the Communications, Advertising and Marketing Foundation would be an advantage.

For further details and an application form contact, Ken Codling, Personnel Department, City Hall, Norwich, Telephone (0603) 62223 ext. 225.

Completed applications must be returned by 1st April 1985.

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**CITY OF NORWICH****Warden Hervey Road Hostel**

£10,764 — £11,682

Greenwich has recently completed a comprehensive review of its services for people with a mental handicap, and our emphasis for the future is on helping every person with a mental handicap to achieve the highest possible level of personal independence and control over their lives, whether they live alone, with family or in a group setting.

Hervey Road Hostel has 18 residents of varying ability, some of whom are multiple handicapped. There are also two beds available for short-term care. The Hostel is seen as providing long term care for the majority of its residents, with the emphasis on helping individuals within the house to find their optimum level of independence, being involved as far as possible in choices about food, clothes, holidays, etc. Staff are also aware that changes and developments within the Department may mean some residents will be able to move on to smaller units at some time in the future.

The staff work a 39-hour week on a rota basis and there is a key-worker system in operation.

We need a Warden who is suitably qualified (CQSW, CSS, Dip.TMA or other relevant qualification) and who has had experience in motivating and developing a staff team as well as in direct individual and group work with clients. She/he should be interested in encouraging the potential for independence of mentally handicapped adults and in promoting this in work with clients' relatives, with local pressure groups and with professional colleagues.

The staff team would particularly appreciate someone who is a good communicator, sensitive to the needs of people with a mental handicap and has a good sense of humour.

For informal discussion and further information about this post, please telephone Ms S. Gillespie, Principal Care Officer (Handicapped) on 01-854 8888, ext. 3057.

Application form from the Director of Social Services, London Borough of Greenwich, 50 Woolwich New Road, London SE18 6HQ, telephone 01-854 8888, ext. 3073.

Closing date: 22nd March, 1985.

THE COUNCIL POSITIVELY WELCOMES APPLICATIONS FROM WOMEN, ETHNIC MINORITIES AND DISABLED PEOPLE.

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The ability to work closely with employers and trades union representatives is essential, as is a knowledge of the reality of industrial relations in a range of industries. In addition, a clear perspective on what would be needed to establish more democratic working systems is a requirement of the job.

Applications will also be considered for part-time, job sharing or secondment.

GLEB is an equal opportunities employer.

Further details and an application form, which should be returned by 27th March, obtainable from:

Keith Jerome, Director, Structural Investment Division, Greater London Enterprise Board Ltd, 63-67 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BD.

Greater London Enterprise Board

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

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The challenging post carries responsibility for finance, personnel and other central administrative services to the Directorate including the development of computerised systems and other applications of new technology.

The successful candidate will require:

- proven management ability and experience at senior level within or outside Local Government
- an ability to work with Elected Members and Senior Officers
- particular expertise in financial planning and management information systems
- a professional qualification in accountancy or a relevant discipline

If you can work under pressure and retain a creative approach to resolving problems and managing people, try Portsmouth. Contact Mike Lish on Portsmouth 834143 for an informal discussion.

Application forms available from the Chief Community Services Officer, The Guildhall, Portsmouth PO1 2AD, or telephone 834187, quoting Post No. 505.

Closing date of applications: 25 March 1985.



Islington Housing

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(Greek Cypriot Community)

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The essential experience and qualities needed for this post within the Race Relations Section are:

- 1) At least 3 years' community work experience.
- 2) An ability to process grant-aid applications including the drafting of reports.
- 3) An ability to identify and meet the needs of Greek-Cypriots.
- 4) The ability to speak Greek fluently.
- 5) Previous experience of giving advice to the voluntary sector.

Experience in organising training programmes would be an advantage.

Application form and job description available from: The Borough Secretary, Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD. Tel: 01-539 0910 (24-hour answerphone service). Closing date: 22nd March, 1985.

Applications are welcome from candidates regardless of race, sex and disability and we have a positive attitude towards the employment of disabled people.

GLC

Working for London

Head of Operational Services Group

This post incorporates three main functions: Management of two committee servicing sections (Arts & Recreation and Public Services & Fire Brigade); management and co-ordination of entertainment licensing and provision of direct assistance to two Assistant Directors-General. Duties include advising Members and staff on policies and procedures, preparing/editing reports, letters and briefs and representing the Council at meetings.

Extensive staff management experience is called for together with good organisation and communication skills, political awareness and balanced judgement. Applicants need to be capable of quickly absorbing complex legislation.

Salary: £15,906-£17,670 inclusive. Ref: 5430.

Lease Compliance Officers

All new industrial leases issued by the GLC contain a good employer clause, providing for health and safety and employment rights such as equal opportunities, fair wages and trade union access. Some 200 small firms have agreed to these terms.

The main responsibilities of these posts include monitoring and advising on compliance with the clause, including visits and liaison with appropriate trade unions, and assisting in the development of publicity material.

Experience of industrial relations and trade union procedures is essential with proven communication skills and good knowledge of legislation in at least one of the following areas: Health and Safety, Employment Protection, Sex and Race Discrimination. For one post the ability to speak Bengali and a good knowledge of ethnic minority communities is required.

Salary: £13,065-£14,781 inclusive. Ref: 5503.

Project Development Unit

The GLC is committed to supporting a wide range of employment-related groups, including women's and black and ethnic minority projects, co-operative development agencies, trade union resource centres and employment projects for people with disabilities.

The Project Development Unit has been established to implement this policy and now has the following vacancies. Both posts require some understanding of, and commitment to, the Council's industry and employment policies, or the ability to acquire such.

Administrative Officer

In addition to the development and day-to-day management of administrative systems, this new post is responsible for progressing committee reports, servicing weekly meetings and liaising with other Council departments, as well as for oversight of the administrative and clerical staff of the unit.

Proven ability to manage and co-ordinate the administrative work of a busy office, together with good communication and interpersonal skills, are also required.

Salary: £13,065-£14,781 inclusive. Ref: 5504.

Project Assistants

To assist with monitoring of existing projects, including timekeeping for grant renewals, checking of payments and arranging visits. There is liaison with the unit's support team on the review and improvement of internal office systems.

Good communication and interpersonal skills are essential with proven ability to work both independently and in a team situation.

Salary: £6,927-£9,255 inclusive. Ref: 5505.

Disability Resource Team**Administrative Assistant**

The Team has been established to expand the Council's programme of activities for people with disabilities and works closely with the London Consortium on Disability, an advisory body of GLC Members and voluntary organisations.

This post is within the section dealing with access, communication and information. Applicants should be positively welcomed from people with disabilities who have knowledge of these areas.

Responsibilities include assisting with the provision of an up-to-date enquiry and information service, servicing the consortium's Access advisory group and managing the section's equipment resources.

Good communication, note taking and organising skills, the ability to prioritise a heavy workload and a knowledge of information technology and the aids and equipment used by people with disabilities are all essential.

Salary: £6,927-£9,255 inclusive. Ref: 5498.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

For an application form to be returned by 22nd March 1985, write to: GLC Director-General's Department, Room 203, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 1527/2390. Please quote appropriate reference.

These posts are suitable for job sharing

Deputy Town Clerk (Designate)

£18,810 to £20,691 per annum plus Lump Sum Car Allowance

Due to the forthcoming retirement of the present postholder, applications are invited from experienced solicitors for this post, which carries Chief Officer salary and status and membership of the Management Team.

The Deputy Town Clerk is responsible to the Chief Executive Officer & Town Clerk for the day-to-day management control and co-ordination of the Town Clerk's Department, the main functions of which include Committee administration, legal services and provision of common office services.

The successful applicant will be a qualified solicitor with extensive local government experience and proven management ability, with the personal qualities necessary to lead and motivate others to the highest standard of performance in achieving the Council's objectives.

In addition to the salary, the Council offers a re-location package which includes the provision of temporary accommodation. For further information on the post contact Mr. M. Abbott, Personnel & Management Services Officer — telephone Burnley (0282) 25011, extension 233.

An application form and further details can be obtained from the Chief Executive Officer & Town Clerk's Department, P.O. Box 17, Town Hall, Burnley BB1 1JA (extension 2448), to whom they should be returned by Monday, 18th March 1985.

BRIAN WHITTLE, Chief Executive Officer.

BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Due to the expanding programme of development of open learning materials and resources for the maritime and offshore oil industries the following vacancies have arisen in the open learning unit of the college.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIST

To assist in all aspects of resource production for open learning within the unit with particular emphasis on the structuring and preparation of texts and on video production. Applicants should possess an engineering degree and have experience in the production of materials for open learning as well as a qualification or experience in educational technology.

Salary on scale — Lecturer 'A' viz. £8,688 to £12,777.

VIDEO TECHNICIAN

To assist in a modern and well equipped studio with the preparation and production of video training material to support open learning and to carry out fault diagnosis and first line servicing on the latest video equipment.

Applicants should hold an appropriate qualification and have a minimum of 5 years' experience. A knowledge of the latest TV and video equipment and techniques is essential.

Salary within the range £5,105 to £8,015 — placement according to qualifications and experience.

These posts are offered initially on a fixed term contract of 2 years.

Application form and further details available from: Assistant Secretary (Admin)

LEITH NAUTICAL COLLEGE, 24 Milton Road East, EDINBURGH, EH15 2PP.

A Scottish Central Institution.

**ALCOHOLICS RECOVERY PROJECT**

A registered charity and housing association requires a

FUND RAISING CO-ORDINATOR

to co-ordinate and manage the fund-raising requirements of this rapidly expanding organisation. Ideally, the candidate will be familiar with central and local government funding and be willing to develop new sources of funding.

Skills in administration and personnel management would be an advantage.

This is an exciting and challenging post requiring creativity and flexibility.

Salary: £9,780 — £10,362 including London Weighting (under review), five weeks' annual leave.

Closing date: 15th March, 1985.

Application forms and job descriptions from: ARP, 68 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6DF. Tel: 01-403 3369.

ARP is an equal opportunities employer

RESIDENTIAL WARDEN

North Kensington Students Hostel Limited

(Salary: £3,648 — £10,179 p.a.)

We are a thriving hostel in North Kensington, for nine young people (16-19 years) staying at school or college, but who are unable to live at home. The hostel was successfully launched in 1983, and we are still looking for a talented successor to the warden who has just left. Applicants must be qualified in teaching, youth or social work, and have relevant experience including the practicalities of running a hostel. We offer the support of the House Committee and supervision. Further information and application forms may be had from the Chairman, 25 Oxford Gardens, London W10. Closing date for applications: 27th March 1985.

STONHAM HOUSING ASSOCIATION: ACTON BRANCH

Ex-Offenders Project

PART-TIME RESIDENTIAL WORKER

(Non-resident) £3,200 per annum

Some block working plus sleeping in duties to cover full-time staff leave. Might suit student with some previous experience.

Contact Manager Gerry Brute: 01-622 8316.

6, Acton High St., London W3 6LJ.

Closes 18th March, 1985.

SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER

An independently-run adolescent unit in South West London urgently requires a full-time qualified Senior Social Worker with proven management skills.

Preferably applicants should have several years experience in Field and Group work and must have a definite enthusiasm for and interest in, working with young people, as the unit caters for sixteen adolescents aged between 16 and 18.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the unit and the management of its team of young staff. For an application form and further information on this and other full and part time vacancies contact:

Reliance Social Care

18 John St, London WC1N 2DL
01-242 8558

NORCARE LIMITED

require a PROJECT LEADER

to set up and run a twelve-bed hostel scheme for ex-offenders situated in Rlyth, Northumberland. Duties will include hostel management, selection and support of residents, assistance with resettlement and rehoming, liaison with the relevant statutory and voluntary organisations, and supervision of other staff. Relevant experience required. The post is non-residential, but sleeping-in duties will be required.

Starting salary will be £7,584 per annum, based on NJC scales.

Further details and an application form from: Norcare Ltd, Sandford Executive Office, Sandford Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE2 1XG Tel: 04525-01581.

Closing date for applications is Thursday 21 March 1985.

The vital services provided by the GLC are as varied and contrasting as the London scene itself and the multi-racial, multi-cultural community it serves.

To maintain and develop these services we need to attract socially aware women and men to our Graduate Training Schemes. People who can bring ability, enthusiasm and commitment to the task of feeding London's social and economic problems and not only help deliver the services needed today but to plan for tomorrow.

In return, Graduate Trainees gain a broadly based training and wide practical experience in their chosen field laying the solid foundations needed for a professional career.

We are currently inviting applications from graduate women and men wishing to train in:

Public Finance & Accountancy

A demanding 3 year course of study, on the job training and practical work experience leading to CIPFA, fees covered include financial management, audit, accounting and assessing the financial implications of policies and projects. Applicants must possess, or expect to gain by September 1986, one of the following: a university or ONVA degree, the CIPFA Foundation course examination or the first examination of the ICA, ICMA or ACA's pass at credit level for the Accounting Technician qualification, or an HND in Business Studies.

Development Planning

A 2 year training programme leading to membership of the RPI covering the development, interpretation and application of a wide range of strategic planning policies development of local plans, and special projects. Applicants must either be honours graduates or undergraduates in their final year of study, whose degrees are planning or related, and give completion from the final examinations of the RPI.

Valuation Surveying

A comprehensive training programme geared to professional practice duties sufficiently wide to meet the diary requirements of the RICS for its first of Professional Competence. Under the supervision of a qualified surveyor the will include land and property management, estimates and valuations; dealing with the public, negotiating with agents and professional representatives. Applicants must have, or expect to obtain during 1985, a degree or diploma giving exemption from the RICS qualifying examination.

Many GLC Graduate Training Schemes cover fields which have traditionally attracted applications almost exclusively from men. In line with our positive approach to equal opportunities we would particularly welcome applications from women as well as men for all of these schemes.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

For further details and an application form write to: GLC Graduate Recruitment Office, PERSE, 183M, The County Hall, London SE1 7PB or telephone 07-633 6001. Closing date: 22nd March 1985.

Graduate to the mainstream GLC

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING

The Programming and Policy Groups function centrally in a stimulating environment which includes a range of engineering and surveying, direct labour, valuation and administration services.

PROGRAMMING

Newham is an Outer London Borough with most of the characteristics and problems of Inner City Areas. This year our expected Capital Programme is £37 million and a large slice of this work will be controlled and monitored through the Programming Group.

As a Project Assistant/Officer you will need to communicate effectively with staff at all levels, have the ability to resolve problems yourself and prepare realistic programmes and expenditure patterns in association with professional and technical staff. Micro-computers are an integral part of programming at Newham. Computer application skills would therefore be an advantage. In addition, you must have the capacity to chair meetings, produce concise reports and minutes and the ability to get on with people.

POLICY

Do you have project management, problem solving, performance review skills? Are you a clear thinker? You will have to demonstrate that you are a thoughtful and creative person for the post of Project Assistant/Officer which arises from a promotion. You will have the responsibility for advising senior management on improvements to departmental efficiency and must contribute to corporate issues as they arise. You will have the capacity to take the lead in projects as diverse as computer implementation, the operation of the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy and reviews in the Works area including the Highways D.L.O.

Project Assistant/Officers:

Programming or Policy

£7,212 - £11,682

or to £12,900 inclusive

The posts are widely graded and as such would be suitable either for persons who are professionally qualified, or have had relevant work experience in a programming/policy role, not necessarily in Local Government. For the lower range, applications from recently qualified graduates will be considered and training will be given as necessary.

Application forms are available from the Director of Engineering and Surveying, 25 Nelson Street, East Ham, London E6 4EH. Tel: 01-472 1430, ext 3503.

Closing date for applications: 18th March, 1985.

Interviews will be held on: 27th March, 1985.

Newham positively welcomes applications from women, ethnic minorities and disabled people.



THE LABOUR PARTY has a vacancy for the post of ASSISTANT LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICER (RESEARCH DEPARTMENT)

The Local Government Section consists of the Local Government Officer, his Secretary and the Assistant Local Government Officer (the present vacancy). The Section is an important part of the Research Department, being responsible for all local government matters at Head Office and it works in close co-operation with the relevant research officers in the Department.

The Assistant will work with the Local Government Officer to provide wide-ranging support work for National Executive Committee, Labour Groups and appropriate local parties; prepare research and policy papers and also campaign, speech, political education and other information material; act as a source of advice on local government matters, including legal issues and finance; and advise the National Agent on organisational matters as they affect local government. She or he will also assist in the preparation of the publication, "Labour Councilor", and in arranging conferences called to discuss local government matters.

Applicants must have a good understanding and experience of local government; be able to write well; and have experience in the preparation of research papers, briefing material and other material for publication. An Honours Degree, though not essential, would be a considerable advantage. A background of activity in the Party, in local government, and in the wider Labour movement, is essential.

Salary range, inclusive of London Weighting, £10,420 - £12,060 p.a., dependent on appropriate experience in a similar capacity. Application forms are available from: The Administrative and Personnel Officer, The Labour Party, 150 Walworth Road, London SE17 1JT (Tel. 01-703 1064) and should be returned by Monday, 25th March, 1985. This is a re-advertisement of the post and previous applicants need not apply. The Labour Party is an equal opportunities employer.

SHAC

(The London Housing Aid Centre)

Is an independent Housing Aid Centre covering the Greater London area. We are looking for a:

HOUSING ADVISER

for 25 hours p.w. Salary £9,308 p.a. pro-rata.

The post will be for a temporary period of one year to cover an absence on maternity leave. The job is in our busy Casework Department and involves both case work and project work. Casework is advising and assisting people with their individual housing problems. Problems might be: Homelessness, Landlord (Tenant difficulties), Repairs problems. Project work can include acquiring an expert knowledge of a specialist topic, development work, writing leaflets, training. Applicants should have experience of housing, or of advice work.

Some initial training will be given. Applicants must have a commitment to work in an anti-racist and anti-sexist way. For an unofficial chat please contact: Rachel Hawley, Co-ordinator of Casework or Jamie Cannon, Housing Adviser, Tel: 01-373 7841; or write for job description and application form to: SHAC (The London Housing Aid Centre), 188a Old Brompton Road, London SW5 0AR. Closing date: Wednesday, March 27th, 1985.

INTERMEDIATE TREATMENT RESOURCE CENTRE, SCOTLAND AND THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

I.T. Consultancy Project Leader

Salary: £11,025-£11,889 per annum plus car (Re-advertisement)

We are looking for someone who is sufficiently resourceful, imaginative and skilled to take on the job of establishing the first I.T. Consultancy Project in Scotland.

Your task will be made easier by working within a system of juvenile justice which is humane and flexible, and which acknowledges the value of I.T.; you will also be working alongside the staff of the I.T. Resource Centre who have extensive knowledge and contacts within the Scottish I.T. scene.

Nonetheless this will be an extremely challenging post, funded initially for 3 years. We can only guarantee that boredom won't be a problem.

For informal discussion about this post contact:

Kevin Gill (ITRC) at 041-204 0417 or

Bill Grieve (SCF) at 031-225 6683

Application form and job description are obtainable from: Angela Leask, Administrative Officer, Save the Children Fund, 21 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4FS. Tel: 031-225 6683.

Closing date: Friday, 22nd March, 1985.

Interview date: 3rd April, 1985.

St Helens & Knowsley HEALTH AUTHORITY

GENERAL MANAGER

Applications are invited by the St Helens and Knowsley Health Authority for the post of General Manager. The General Manager will be responsible to the Authority for the formulation of policies and objectives and for the implementation of change. As Head of the Management Team the General Manager will oversee the establishment and achievement of financial and performance targets. The successful candidate will be expected to have demonstrated qualities of leadership at a senior management level.

This position is a challenging opportunity for a person with a wide ranging background in business or in the public service which has led to comparable management responsibilities to those envisaged. The Authority employs 4,800 full time staff and has a budget of £50 million.

The contractual arrangements will be for discussion and agreement but will include a 3 year contract with annual reviews.

Candidates are requested to forward a CV together with the names of 3 referees and a brief statement of why they wish to be considered for this appointment. All applications should be made to: Mr G. McNamara, Chairman, St Helens and Knowsley Health Authority, Cowley Hill Lane, St Helens, Merseyside, WA10 2AP.

An information package is available from the Chairman (Tel: St Helens 33722 Ext 291), but the closing date for applications is Wednesday 27 March 1985.

LINGFIELD HOSPITAL SCHOOL St. Pier's Lane, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6PW

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CARE OFFICER

The appointee will be required to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team caring for 280 children and young adults with epilepsy and other handicaps. The Hospital School which has an international reputation accommodates the pupils and students in 16 Houses and the post is demanding. The Deputy Principal Care Officer will be expected to give positive leadership to the Department's 115 staff in all aspects of care. Applicants will be expected to have had considerable experience in residential child care, hold a social work qualification and have undergone post graduate studies. A three-bedroomed semi-detached modern house is provided at reasonable rental.

Salary: £12,243 - £13,688 plus London Weighting £192, plus allowances of £2,484 for additional duties.

HOSTEL OFFICER VACANCY

Salary: £9,262 - £9,785

Applications are invited for the above post which involves leading a staff team responsible for the care of 19 adolescent boys who are students in our Further Education Unit. Previous experience and a child care qualification necessary. Accommodation available.

Applicants will have the opportunity of visiting the establishment prior to interview. Apply to the Principal Care Officer, Mr G. Lacey, for application form and further details. Telephone enquiries to Lingfield (0345) 02243.

NOTTINGHAM COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE is looking for a replacement (full-time or equivalent) for a COMMUNITY WORK TRAINING OFFICER (STUDENT UNIT)

This interesting and challenging post involves negotiation and supervision of Social Work student placement in the Community development / community action field. It includes working alongside community workers in the City to extend existing work and develop new initiatives.

CQSW qualification, experience of student supervision and a commitment to the principles of the Training Unit (as a part of CVS) are essential.

Salary in scales 50/52 according to experience.

37 hour pw (flexible). Local Authority conditions of service. Superannuation Scheme optional.

Application form and job description from: Jean Kanasand, Administrative Officer, Nottingham CVS, 33 Mansfield Road, Nottingham NG1 3FF. Telephone: 478714.

For informal discussion contact: Penny Wakefield - Telephone: 413279.

Closing date for completed applications: 29 March, 1985.

Have you realised the true value of your science or engineering degree?

Are you reaping the full benefits of all the hard work you put into getting your degree?

Are you aware that your degree could be of immense value to the Royal Air Force?

As one of our Education & Training Officers.

New advances are constantly being made in electronics, computer technology, radar electrical and aeronautical engineering.

These advances can only be applied effectively if they're communicated effectively. And this is where you come in.

Whatever level of rank you're addressing you're involved with highly motivated people.

If you aren't already experienced, we'd teach you the art of teaching. And train you to take on a wide range of other activities as well.

You'd organise adult education centres. Advise on instructional techniques.

You'd initiate tuition on subjects from our own education tests to post-graduate university

courses. And we'd encourage your own post-graduate studies.

What now?

Ideally you should have a degree in an engineering subject, physics, mathematics or a computing discipline. Alternatively you may apply if you have an HNC or TECHC in an engineering subject, together with a GCE 'O' level in English Language (or equivalent), or a teaching qualification with mathematics or physics.

You can apply for a four-to-six-year gratuity-earning Short Service Commission or a pensionable, permanent commission.

Write to Group Captain P. E. Terrett, OBE, LLB, RAF, at

TK Officer Careers (07/04/03)

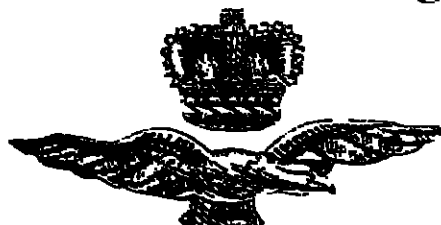
London Road, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 4PZ, or call in at any RAF

Careers Information Office.

Please include your date of birth and your present and/or intended qualifications. Upper age limit on entry is 39.

Formal application must be made in the UK.

Education & Training



RAF Officer

Develop Arts in the Community

A: Central Wandsworth and Battersea

Salary £9,780 to £10,362 (incl.)

B: Putney and Roehampton (1 post)

Balham and Tooting (1 post)

Salary £8,772 to £9,510 (incl.)

All posts have enhancement for weekend and evening work.

We need three Arts Workers to give:

• initiative

• organising skills

• ability to work creatively,

• experience with local government.

to these new roles created following a review and restructuring of our long-established Arts and Entertainment Section.

Within an area of the Borough, each person would have responsibility for developing all forms of local arts activity, eg drama groups, carnivals, dance groups, art activities, and organising professional participation.

Post A will co-ordinate and report on the work of all three areas.

Ability to drive will be an advantage.

Further details of these new roles and application forms from Leisure and Amenity, Personnel Section, Town Hall, London SW18 2PL. Tel: 01-871 6360. Please quote ref. 1208.

Wandsworth

an equal opportunity employer

All essential areas of employment are open to applicants regardless of race, sex or marital status

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY COMMUNITY INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Haringey is an outer London Borough with the characteristics of an inner city area. Applications are invited from Chartered Librarians with experience of working in a multi-cultural, inner city area for two key posts in the Library Service.

EXECUTIVE LIBRARIAN

Grade P03: £12,900 to £13,983 Incl.

To manage and develop Bibliographical Services, including stock provision and information work.

SENIOR LIBRARIAN-IN-CHARGE

Grade P02: £11,916 to £12,900 Incl.

To manage Haringey Library, and to deputise for the Executive Librarian in the management of Bibliographical Services.

Applicants should have substantial public library experience and a range of social, communication and management skills. The Council is committed to developing library services in a closer and more responsive relationship with local communities. A comprehensive review of the Library Service is currently under way, and these two posts will play a key part in the implementation of change, as a result of which the nature and duties of these posts will also be subject to change.

Further details and application forms are available from: Mrs Pat Butler, Community Information, Central Library, High Road, Wood Green, London N22 6ED. Tel: 01-883 1282. Closing date: 29th March, 1985.

COMPREHENSIVE HOUSING SERVICE HOUSING BENEFIT OFFICER

Salary: £9,189 to £9,771 Incl. Scale 6.

A Housing Benefit Team Leader is required for Haringey. The post will operate as a local office on a decentralised basis. Applicants should have a basic knowledge of the legislation involved, be experienced in staff supervision, demonstrate an ability to communicate and organise effectively, and show themselves able to work under pressure.

Experience of working with clients from minority ethnic groups would be advantageous and applications from these groups are particularly welcome.

Application forms and further details from: Recruitment and Personnel Officer, 13/27 Station Road, Wood Green, London N22. Tel: 01-883 5815 (24-hr answering service). Please quote Ref: 58-422.

Closing date: 22nd March, 1985.

Haringey is an Equal Opportunity Employer

HULL AND DISTRICT COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for the above new post which becomes available in April, 1985. Applicants should preferably have some experience in the management of persons with alcohol and related problems and the capacity to work closely with a range of statutory and voluntary agencies. The successful applicant will be expected to co-ordinate and supervise the work of voluntary counsellors, organise and participate in training programmes, and be responsible for the running of a service centred on Hull and also serving the surrounding district.

Salary: NJC Scale S01-S02 plus car allowance £9,600 to £10,539 subject to negotiation (increase pending).

Application forms and further information from: Reverend Paul Thomas, Rowley Rectory, Little Wighton, Cottingham HU20 3XR. Telephone 0482 843317.

Closing date for applications March 12, 1985.

RODINGLEA HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD HOUSING OFFICER

Rodinglea is a charitable housing association providing rented accommodation for single people and childless couples in the East London boroughs of Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest. We manage about 165 tenancies, 154 houses. In furnished student accommodation and 20 short-life properties. There is a development pipeline of about 50 units. We are seeking a person with an interest in the housing needs of young people to be responsible for all aspects of the letting, management and maintenance of our student accommodation and to play a full part in the running of the association. The post is likely to appeal to someone with housing experience who wishes to develop and broaden their range of skills.

The starting salary will be between £7800 and £8772, according to experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 21st March 1985), please contact Rodinglea Housing Association, 279 Manor Road, London E16. (Tel: 01-474 1668). Interviews will be held on Monday 1st April 1985.

SHEFFIELD AGAINST RATE CAPPING FOR THE RIGHT REASONS

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT TRAINING OFFICER

Sc3-S02 £5,992 to £11,025 according to experience

This post is initially for a 12 months' period and will be located centrally within the Personnel Department as a member of the Council's new Training and Development Team. The Team is developing corporate training policy and practice following the radical restructuring of the City Council's personnel management operation. Applications are invited from men and women of proven achievement in training and development in Local Government or industry. It is essential that applicants can work effectively as members of a team and can make an immediate contribution to the corporate training and development service, particularly in the areas of: (a) induction training, (b) implementation of personnel development and training programmes for young employees of the City Council.

LETTERS OF APPLICATION STATING WHERE YOU SAW THIS POST ADVERTISED AND GIVING FULL DETAILS TO THE CHIEF PERSONNEL OFFICER, TOWN HALL, SHEFFIELD S1 2RH. CLOSING DATE MARCH 18.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

The City Council has, over the last two years, radically reorganised the Housing Department, developing 15 Area Teams to manage comprehensively its 32,000 dwellings. An integrated housing management system is being developed to provide at each area office facilities to aid the efficient delivery of services. As well as proven experience we are looking for a person for this post who shares the Council's commitment to provide a personal and responsive service.

PRINCIPAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER

P02g-h £13,326 to £15,387

Will act as deputy to the Assistant Director in the North Division, having responsibility for five area housing management teams and a centralised specialist rehousing team. The Council is currently undertaking a review of rehousing policies and practices prior to the introduction of a fully computerised rehousing system. The Principal Management Officer will be expected to undertake a major role in this exercise. A good grip of current housing issues together with proven managerial skills will be required. For an informal chat about the job, please telephone John Bailey (Assistant Director of Housing) on 0742 735403.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS FROM THE PERSONNEL SECTION, HOUSING DEPARTMENT, TOWN HALL, SHEFFIELD S1 1WA. TEL: 0742 735433. CLOSING DATE MARCH 18.

City of Sheffield

An Equal Opportunity Employer



HOMEFINDING IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PROJECT WORKER

Teenage Family Care Northampton Divisional Office (2 year appointment)

SW3 £8,532 - £10,107 per annum

An exciting and challenging new project is to be piloted in Northampton, with the aim of providing a fostering resource for the more difficult and disturbed children aged 10-17 years, who need the opportunity of family life.

We are seeking to recruit an energetic, enthusiastic and imaginative person, who holds a social work qualification (CQSW) and has experience in the field of fostering, to take on the task of Project Worker. He/she will have responsibility for recruitment, training and support of foster parents working within the scheme. The foster parents will be paid an enhanced rate in addition to Boarding Out Allowance.

The successful applicant will be a member of an established Homefinding and Services to the Under Fives Team, which is based in Northampton.

Are you prepared for the challenge that this post offers?

If so, please contact Sue Bruntton-Reed, Team Leader, for an informal discussion, on Northampton 34833, ext 5067.

Application forms and further particulars are available from the Personnel Section, Social Services Department, Floor 4, Northampton House, Northampton. Tel: 38232.

Closing date: 22nd March, 1985; Formal interviews: 2nd April, 1985.



Northamptonshire

Social Services

VICTORIA CENTRE

A Multi-Cultural, Multi-Racial, Multi-Religious Community Centre (potential Urban Funded) to 1990 designed to build bridges between many ethnic minority groups.

CENTRE MANAGER

£9,477

To develop the Centre's purpose by managing the premises, supervising staff of 20 and promoting programmes of Multi-Cultural activity.

£8,555

To develop an existing programme of youth and children's work and increase local understanding of needs of young people.

ARTS PROMOTER

£4,000 (Initially Eight-Month Contract)

To promote an awareness of the Arts in Wellesborough and market the Centre as a Regional Arts base.

All Centre employees are required to commit themselves to multi-racial and multi-religious development.

The Centre is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

For Job Descriptions, further details and Application Form contact: The Chairman, Victoria Centre, Park Road, Wellesborough. Tel: 0933 77400.

Closing date: March 18th, 1985.

A NEW STYLE TRAINING CENTRE

Charlton Training Consortium, made up of Community, Voluntary and Statutory Bodies, is developing a New Training Centre in South East London. It will cater for approximately 350 trainees each year. Courses will cover a wide range of skills and will be designed to promote an Energetic Equal Opportunities Policy, with provision for Ethnic Minorities, Women Only Courses, and access to courses for the Disabled. On Site Childcare Facilities will be provided. There will be some day, evening and weekend use of provision geared to the Non-Vocational needs of the immediate community.

This Consortium wishes to appoint three trainers:

TRAINER 1. Motor Vehicle Body Repair/Spray Painting.
(Applications are invited from skilled persons of either discipline).

TRAINER 2. A Reserve Trainer with a skill background in Electronics/Engineering.

TRAINER 3. A Reserve Trainer with a skill background in Automotive Trades/Welding.

Duties will include

- Ensuring that established training programmes are uninterrupted by absences.
- Assisting in selection of trainees.
- The design, development of training programmes.
- Efficient induction and assessment of trainees.
- A commitment to the Health and Safety At Work Act toward training environment.

Responsible to the Training Programme Co-ordinator and on Salary Scale £9,687 (inclusive).

Details — Application Forms and Full Job Description from:

Charlton Training Consortium, Ferranti Close, off Westfield Street, WESTMINSTER INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, Woolwich Road, SE18 5TU. TEL: 01 317 9636

Closing date for return of applications: 29th March 1985.

Interviews will be held 2 weeks after closing date.

The Consortium rejoices in the racial and cultural diversity of the people of the area, and therefore invites applications from men and women irrespective of ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

Charlton Training Consortium is funded by the GLC, The European Social Fund, and The London Borough of Greenwich.

THE RAINER FOUNDATION INTENSIVE INTERMEDIATE TREATMENT IN HAMPSHIRE PROJECT WORKER, ALDERSHOT £7746 — £9114

(Starting point depending on qualifications and experience)

The Aldershot Intensive Intermediate Treatment Centre is part of the Rainer Foundation's North Hampshire Intermediate Treatment Scheme and provides facilities offered to the Courts as alternatives to custody for juvenile offenders.

A Project Worker is required to complete a team of four in this newly established scheme. C.O.S.W. and at least two years relevant experience of work within the juvenile justice system preferred.

For further details and informal discussion please ring Bridget Gardiner on 0252 332010 or 332861.

Application Form and job description can be obtained from: The Rainer Foundation, Station Road LT, Project, 28 Station Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 1HT. Closing date 15th March 1985.

The Rainer Foundation is an Equal Opportunities employer.

COMMUNITY TASK FORCE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS CROYDON SURREY £132.65 p.w. (2)

Duties of both persons appointed will include: (1) undertake the landscape design of environmental and other works to be executed on railway land; (2) prepare, plan and assist in developing costing; (3) visit sites as needed. The ideal applicant would have landscape architectural experience. A background of working with or an interest in railways an advantage. MSC eligibility rules apply. Application in writing to: James Lamb, Unit 40/402, 80 White Horse, Spitalfields, London, E1 7NF.

BLACKFRIARS SETTLEMENT are looking for a SENIOR PLAYLEADER

at the Waterloo Adventure Playground to be in charge of a small team running the playground. Salary APT and C Miscellaneous 6 plus allowance for unsocial hours. Likely starting point £2,238 per annum (award pending). For job description and application form please contact Peter Hudson, Blackfriars Settlement, 44-47 Nelson Square, London SE1 0QA. Tel: 01-628 9521.

West Midlands County Council

COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT Vacancies for Research Officers

The Census Statistical Information and Research Unit is one team within the Strategic Planning Division of the Department. Its main responsibilities are:

- to provide a central source of data and information, particularly from Government sources, for all departments;
- to liaise with Districts and surrounding Shire Counties on data dissemination and exchange particularly in relation to strategic planning; and
- to develop computer use in, and computer systems for the Planning Department.

The following vacancies exist within the Unit:

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT RESEARCH OFFICER
£12,243-£13,326 — Post Ref. PL 170

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT RESEARCH OFFICER
£10,716-£11,562 — Post Ref. PL 180

Further details about these posts may be obtained from: Mr. S. Little, the Team Leader of the Unit on 021-300 8016. For an application form, write or telephone, quoting post reference number.

County Personnel Officer, West Midlands County Council, County Hall, 1 Lancaster Circus, Queensway, Birmingham B4 7DJ. Telephone No. 021-300 7825. A 24-hour telephone answering service is in operation.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 20th March 1985.

The County Council has a positive Equal Opportunities Policy to ensure that all applicants are treated fairly.

CYNGOR SIR GWYNEDD COUNTY COUNCIL SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK DEPARTMENT PLAS TAN Y BWLCH STUDY CENTRE, MAENTWROG

FIELD LECTURER

THREE YEAR APPOINTMENT

Scale 4 - 6: £8555 - £9114 + 7½% for working irregular hours

Applications are invited from graduates in one of the Natural Sciences for the above post.

The Centre offers a large variety of courses to a wide range of students of differing backgrounds and capabilities, therefore, a knowledge of and interest in other aspects of the National Park and its heritage will be required, together with proven ability to communicate ideas and mix with people of all ages.

The person appointed will be given the opportunity to undertake research in a chosen field of interest and evidence of previous research will be an additional qualification.

A knowledge of Welsh highly desirable. Sleeping-in duty will be required for which the appropriate allowance will be paid. Board and accommodation can be provided for a single person if required.

Application forms and further particulars from County Personnel Officer, County Offices, Caernarfon. Closing date: 22nd March, 1985.

The Low Pay Unit

is about to extend its regional network of offices in the West Midlands and Merseyside, by opening a new Unit to serve Greater Manchester. The National Unit is now looking for a

REGIONAL CAMPAIGNS DIRECTOR

£10,716 — £11,562 p.a.

to co-ordinate and develop the work of the regional office and to liaise closely with the national office in London. Applicants should be fully conversant with current social and economic policy issues, and have in-depth experience of Local Government. Proven abilities as an organiser and negotiator, and a willingness to travel extensively, are essential requirements for the demanding post.

PROJECT DIRECTOR — £10,716 p.a.

PROJECT WORKERS (4 posts)

£3,004 p.a.

are required to staff the Greater Manchester Low Pay Unit, which is sponsored by the County Council and some District Councils. The Unit will provide low paid workers with advice and information on minimum wage protection, employment rights and benefits entitlement; carry out and disseminate research into the growing low pay problem within the region. Applicants should have good knowledge of at least 2 of these elements and some experience in campaigning. The Project Director, responsible for the day-to-day running of the Unit, in addition, should have good organisational skills, good communication skills, and some knowledge of Local Government and/or Trade Unions. Experience in secretarial and administrative work will be a requirement for one of the Project Workers posts.

One year contracts will initially be offered for all posts. Letters of appointment, including details of work experience and the names of 2 referees, should be returned by 18th March to: The Low Pay Unit, 8 Upper Berkeley Street, London W1B 6BT.

The Low Pay Unit is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

ASHRAM COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

wish to appoint

TWO EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT WORKERS

Salary: Scale 5, £8,154 (Current level, increase pending)

Post 1

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT WORKER

Post 2

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT WORKER

Wanted for community employment project in Sparkbrook, Birmingham, to develop employment initiatives, especially co-operatives, and small businesses based on traditional skills in mainly Asian neighbourhood.

Details from: The Coordinator, SPARKBROOK ASHRAM COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT, 28, 25 Grantham Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham B11 1LL. Tel: 021-773 7061.

Closing date: March 30th, 1985.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS

F. W. B. & Mary Charles, Architects require

FIELD WORKER FOR HISTORIC BUILDINGS RE-SURVEY

and

ASSISTANT ARCHITECT FOR CONSERVATION PRACTICE

The re-survey post is for eighteen months. The assistant architect would be permanent. Candidates with suitable qualifications please write for full details to Nash House, New Street, Worcester, WR1 2DN.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Programme Planning Officer

— Housing Development Group

Scale S01 £8,477 — £10,107

We are looking for a person of proven administrative ability to co-ordinate the Housing Department's input into all development improvement and maintenance programmes affecting the City Council's 100,000 dwellings. The creation of the post reflects the City Council's policy of giving the client a greater involvement in investment decisions. It also reflects the need to review expenditure priorities in the light of continuing Government-imposed cuts in housing budgets.

You would collate evidence about the fabric, condition and design of dwellings for incorporation into the department's computerised property data base. You will use this data and local estate management knowledge to prepare programmes which meet the needs of our housing stock and tenants.

You would prepare the reports and co-ordinate the consultative process by which they will be vetted. A "Development" Sub-Committee of the Housing Committee has been specifically created to facilitate this process and you would be expected to produce fluent written and verbal material for this Committee.

In addition you would be responsible for performance review of approved projects and progress chasing where necessary. A good working relationship with Direct Labour and Architectural staff is expected.

The post has section head status and is responsible for a site development officer and 4 clerks.

Application forms from the Personnel and Training officer, Housing Department, Room 2021, Level 2, Town Hall Extension, Manchester M60 2JX. Tel: 061-234 4724.

Closing date 28 March, 1985.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Community Development Officer

— Indian Sub Continent

Scale 5 £8,532 — £9,114 (under review)

This post is available within the Community Development Section through Section 11 funding. The main purpose is to assist groups from Pakistan, Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka, resident in the Central District of Manchester.

The worker will provide Community Work support by linking groups with appropriate sections of the Department to promote acceptable and non-discriminatory service provision.

We are looking for applicants with relevant community work experience. Formal qualifications are not essential but experience of issues facing minority groups within inner city areas, with particular reference to Asian Women, is essential. Racial awareness, the ability to relate to community members and formal agencies, to write clear reports, work as a team member as well as take individual initiatives are important. Closing date 29 March, 1985.

Community Development Officers

— Ancoats and Miles Platting — 2 posts

Scale 5 £8,532 — £9,114 (under review)

Replacement neighbourhood workers are required for the Ancoats and Miles Platting areas of inner city Manchester. The workers will support existing commitments in the areas as well as developing new work both in Ancoats and Miles Platting and also possibly in other areas of North Manchester. In response to local needs. Areas of work will include play and work with the under 5's, work with girls and women and support for locally managed community projects. The workers will be part of the Social Services Department's North District Community Development Team. We are looking for applicants with relevant community work experience. Formal qualifications are not essential, but a proven ability to work on a variety of community issues with local people and other agencies. Closing date 22 March, 1985.

Further details about the posts, the Community Development Section, and an application form are available from Director of Social Services, Personnel Section, P.O. Box 536, Town Hall Extension, Manchester M60 2AF. Tel: 061-234 3867 / 3868.

The City Council operates a Union Membership agreement under which a new employee is required to become a member of a recognised Union.

MANCHESTER City Council

Manchester City Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer, and we positively welcome applications from women and men, regardless of their racial, ethnic or national origin, disability, age, sexuality, or responsibilities for dependants.

Advisers to small businesses

Town planners

They're asking for you in the third world.

Voluntary Service Overseas is looking for advisers to small businesses and town planners to work in Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Belize, Nepal and many other third world countries.

Planning and business development, of course belong together. Small third world businesses need budgeting, costing, marketing and management know-how. They also need a planned environment which takes care of essential infrastructure.

VSO work — being carried out by some 1,000 volunteers at this moment — has a lasting effect in combating world poverty and hunger.

And each VSO worker returns richly rewarded by the two-year experience.

Applicants should be aged between 20 and 65, without dependants and willing to accept no more than the local rate of pay.

If you have the right qualities and expertise and you're free to go, please believe that you're needed urgently!

If you're unable to go, but you would like to support our work, there are still two things you can do: send a donation; become a VSO member.

(For more information, please complete and return the coupon.)

VSO

VOLUNTARY SERVICE OVERSEAS

Why not?

VSO also needs...

Builders Carpenters Diesel & agricultural mechanics

Physiotherapists Midwives

Nurse tutors Doctors Community workers Town planners Fishery specialists

Livestock Small business advisers Craft specialists Foresters

Electronic technicians & others

Teachers (English Maths Science & technical subjects) Home Economics & Commerce

Specialist teachers of the handicapped and many more

Post to: Enquiries Unit, Voluntary Service Overseas, 9 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PW (S.A.E. appreciated). Query no 313757. G/63

01-887 1785/515 6888

BOW SINGLE HOMELESS ALCOHOLIC RECOVERY PROGRAMME

302 Devons Road, Bow, London E3

ADMINISTRATOR

(PART-TIME) 24 hours per week flexible

We are a voluntary project shortly needing a replacement in our closely knit staff team for someone with experience of budgeting, cash-flow control, preparation of annual accounts, PAYE, preparing minutes etc.

Starting Salary: NUC Scale AFS pro rata.

Closing date: 15th March 1985.

Informal enquiries to: Magda Hughes

Tel. 01-887 1785/515 6888

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY APPOINTMENTS

APPEAR EVERY THURSDAY IN

THE GUARDIAN

BIRMINGHAM FRIENDSHIP HOUSING ASSOCIATION

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Birmingham Friendship is a community based housing association working in multi-ethnic inner city areas, committed to providing rented housing to meet a wide range of needs.

In addition to our expanding new build and rehabilitation programmes, mainly for family housing, we are also promoting an innovative range of supported and residential care schemes.

This post calls for:

- Sound professional judgement in briefing consultants to achieve good quality, low maintenance housing
- Leadership and imagination in maintaining the momentum of the development programme
- Authority and diplomacy in dealing with lending authorities
- The potential to contribute effectively to the Association's management team
- In return we can offer an attractive salary and conditions.

For an informal discussion, contact John Crawley on 021-773 4641.

Application form and job description from:

Birmingham Friendship Housing Association

17 Braithwaite Road, Sparkbrook

BIRMINGHAM B11 1LB

Area Youth Tutor

Gainsborough (Re-advertisement)

Experienced Youth Workers with a recognised teaching qualification are invited to apply for this post based at Horizon Youth Wing, Gainsborough. Duties will involve professional support to maintained and voluntary youth groups in the area as well as the management of the base centre. The person appointed will join a County Team of 23 full-time members.

JNC conditions and salary Range 3, points 4 - 8: £8595 - £9651. Removal expenses will be payable in approved circumstances.

Application form and further particulars are available from the County Education Officer (PE/PJC), Education Department, County Offices, Newland, LINCOLN LN1 1YQ.

Closing date: Two weeks from the date of this advertisement.

Previous applicants for this post will automatically be reconsidered.

Lincolnshire County Council

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ADVISER

MOSS BAY ENTERPRISE TRUST LTD., WORKINGTON.

The Moss Bay Enterprise Trust was founded some four years ago to help stimulate industrial regeneration in an area severely affected by the economic recession. The Trust provides practical advice and assistance to existing and potential businesses in the area on a range of subjects, eg. Regional Development Grants, industrial and commercial property, financial planning and marketing.

The success of the organisation and progression of its activities has led to the creation of a new post of Business Development Adviser who will be responsible for a range of operations including:

- development of new enterprise initiatives
- promotion of the opportunities of individual grant aid applications
- co-ordination and execution of individual grant aid applications
- liaison with the relevant local authorities and shareholders of the Trust.

The post requires an energetic and progressive person, who will be able to demonstrate real success in the field of economic development or alternatively has a sound record of real success in the field of economic development or alternatively has a sound record of real success in the field of economic development.

If you can clearly demonstrate that you have skills and experience that will enable you to make a valuable contribution towards the activities of the Trust, then contact the address below for an application form and job description.

Moss Bay Enterprise Trust Ltd., Moss Bay Estate, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 3YH. Tel: (0900) 68855.

The closing date for applications will be Friday, 22nd March, 1985.

HACKNEY ADVICE and LAW CENTRE

ADVICE WORKER

(MATERNITY LEAVE LOCUM) Ref: E40

Need at their Citizens Advice Bureau an experienced person, preferably CAB trained, to start April/May 1985 to cover maternity leave period for up to one year. Applications from black workers welcomed. Section 36 (1)(b) of the Equal Pay Act 1967 applies.

Salary: £5,772 — £10,382

Closing date: 18 March 1985.

For application form please send stamped self-addressed envelope to: Hackney Advice Bureau, 44 Southgate Road, London EC2A 3EJ.

GLC/AB, 31 Wellington Street, London WC2.

As an Equal Opportunities employer GLC/AB Encourages

all applications regardless of disability, race, sex and creed.

Citizens Advice Bureau

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

Policy Services Division

PART-TIME POLICY RESEARCHER

Scale 3-5 (equivalent to £5,922 — £8,262 full time)

Applications are invited for a part-time post (up to 27 hours a week) in a small central policy analysis unit. We are looking for someone who is able to think and write clearly, interpret statistical data and work with imagination and impartiality on a wide range of important and often controversial policy issues.

We expect candidates to have a good honours degree or post graduate qualifications, and an interest in public policy.

Further details and application forms from Evelyn Stops, Department of Planning and Research, Shire Hall, Cambridge CB3 0AP. Telephone Cambridge 317225.

Closing date 29th March.

If you would like to discuss this job, ring Jean Perraton on Cambridge 317610.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

INFORMATION/ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT

An exciting new Unit to increase the effectiveness of ethnic minority community organisations in inner city areas is shortly to be set up at NCVO. This pilot initiative aims to support practical support in organisation and management development, and thus encourage the effective participation of ethnic minority groups in local community development and action. The Unit is initially funded for three years.

Two creative workers are wanted to contribute to the Unit's team and to the positive challenges the project presents.

- Development Officer (Information), who should have a sound knowledge and experience of information systems and training material;
- Development Officer (Organisation Development), with a wide experience of consultancy and training in adult education. It is to a large extent self-financing and its success can be judged by its growth from 10 to 55 staff in three years. Applicants should have some knowledge of accounting procedures and budgetary control and it would be useful but not essential to be familiar with the use of a micro-computer. This is a young dynamic unit and provides an exciting opportunity which could give great satisfaction to the right person.

Application form and further details about the unit and its work are available by sending a self-addressed envelope (not less than 3" x 4") to: Staffing Office, Polytechnic of the South Bank, Borough Road, London SE1 0AA.

Closing date: 18th March 1985.

The Polytechnic is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

POLYTECHNIC OF THE SOUTH BANK

GENERAL

Hampshire
SOCIAL SERVICES

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AREA OFFICERS

Salaries: Scale S0.2 - £10,404 - £11,025 (under review)
GOSPORT AREA CENTRE

Due to the impending retirement of the present post-holder, a vacancy will exist in April 1985 for an Assistant Principal Officer. The successful applicant will be one of two Assistant Principal Area Officers who, together with the Principal Area Officer and the Administrative Officer, form the Area Management Team, which formulates the Area's operational and managerial policy in line with County Council policy. Additional to this post-holder is primarily responsible for the Short Term Team which comprises six very experienced and qualified individuals. The team's work covers all aspects of generic social work up to the management of office duty.

Gosport is an extremely busy town with a high referral rate and few community resources. The pressure on the Area is very heavy and in order to maintain the proper and professional service to clients, Social Workers demand and expect a high level of support and supervision which the successful applicant will be expected to provide for the Team. Hampshire is currently reviewing a number of its policies affecting all client groups and any changes are bound to have a profound effect on Area working. Therefore, this could be both an interesting and exciting time for the successful applicant, who should have considerable post-qualification generic experience, appreciate the need for good support and management to staff and hold a current driving licence. For informal discussion please contact Miss M. Levenson on Gosport 58731 Ref: 10382

EASTLEIGH AREA CENTRE

This post is for a Team Leader who will undertake responsibility for the long-term team of the Area Centre.

The workload of this team is generic but with a bias towards Child Care work and experience in that field would be an advantage.

The team also includes the Area Intermediate Treatment Officer, Fostering Officer and Day Care Officer.

This is a well established team with an expectation of regular supervision and good support from a Team Leader.

The person appointed will be a member of the Area Management Team and in this capacity will have the opportunity to contribute to the formulation of plans for improvement to the public and the efficiency of the Area Centre. There will also be a shared responsibility for liaison with other agencies and voluntary groups. The Eastleigh Area Centre has the same boundaries as the Eastleigh District Council. There is a population of approximately 8500 in both urban and rural areas. The area accommodation offers good facilities including ample parking space and is situated near the Eastleigh Shopping Centre.

For informal enquiries please contact Peter Davis, Principal Area Officer on Eastleigh 618722. Ref: 10531X.

Written requests for application forms quoting appropriate reference from the Director of Social Services, Trafalgar House, Winchester. SO2 6UQ. Returnable by March 23, 1985

THE PLANNING EXCHANGE

SENIOR PROJECT OFFICER

(RESEARCH AND INFORMATION)

PILOT URBAN RENEWAL INFORMATION SERVICE

SALARY (placing within the range): £11,000-£14,000

The Planning Exchange is seeking a Senior Project Officer to pilot and develop an information service in the urban renewal field. The successful applicant will be expected to build on the existing experience of the Exchange in the field of information provision and to extend this into the new and exciting area of urban renewal. Case studies of projects will be investigated and written up in a concise and informative way. Liaison at a senior level with both private and public sectors will be required. Trial marketing of the end product will be carried out.

The post will be based at the Planning Exchange, Glasgow and is offered for one year but if the pilot is successful, could be extended. The post will be supernumerary. Favourable consideration will be given to the prospect of a secondment.

Write to Tom Duncan, The Planning Exchange, 186 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 for further details. Closing date: March 22, 1985.

BRENT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

BCT is a thriving Charity providing a variety of services to local people, and currently employing 17 staff.

We have a vacancy for a

CO-ORDINATOR

to take responsibility for the financial and administrative aspects of the organisation. This covers a wide range of activities and close attention to detail is essential.

We depend on successfully working with a large number of volunteers who come from a range of backgrounds. As some need extensive support and financial handling proven skills with people are essential.

A clean driving licence is required. Salary scale £6,532-£9,114 plus 2777 London Weighting; 27 days holiday; local authority conditions.

BCT is an equal opportunities employer.

Applications welcome from candidates regardless of race, national origin, gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation and disability.

Forms and details from

BRENT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

105a Melville Road, Stonebridge NW10

Telephone 01-961 3770

Closing date Wednesday, March 20, 1985

Polytechnic of the South Bank

ASSISTANT FINANCE OFFICER

(Research)

Salary to £14,700. Ref: ADM74

The successful candidate will report to the Deputy Finance Officer and will be responsible, in liaison with the Finance Officer, for the financial aspects of the Polytechnic's externally funded activities.

Applicants for the post must have an accounting qualification.

The post is demanding, but offers scope for persons who are creative and are capable of developing and improving existing procedures.

Further details and application forms are available from the Staffing Office, Polytechnic of the South Bank, Borough Road, London SE1 0AA. Tel: 01-258 1111.

Closing date: March 29, 1985.

The Polytechnic is an Equal Opportunities Employer

London Borough of Hillingdon

RESEARCH OFFICER

in the HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Scale 5 £11,511 p.a. - £12,910 p.a. inclusive of London Weighting

This is a key post, with full developing responsibilities for computer systems development and data processing. The successful candidate will be responsible for the implementation of a microdata system and a number of other microcomputer systems. The successful candidate will also be responsible for the development of a user's knowledge of at least one of the following is essential:

- SRS
- Basic or any other major high-level language
- dBase
- on-line computer systems

An in-depth knowledge of, or interest in, housing/social policy and services is essential, as is an ability to develop links with public and private housing agencies. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of a user's knowledge of at least one of the following is essential:

- SRS
- Basic or any other major high-level language
- dBase
- on-line computer systems

As an in-depth knowledge of, or interest in, housing/social policy and services is essential, as is an ability to develop links with public and private housing agencies. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of a user's knowledge of at least one of the following is essential:

- SRS
- Basic or any other major high-level language
- dBase
- on-line computer systems

Application forms and job descriptions are available from the Housing Department, London Borough of Hillingdon, Uxbridge Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3PH. Tel: 01-895 5555. Closing date: March 22, 1985.

REGIONAL STATISTICIAN AND OPERATIONAL RESEARCH OFFICER

— SCALE 22

Salary Scale: £12,371 to £15,511 per annum

Professionally qualified and experienced in the use of computers and statistical methods, the successful candidate will be responsible for the development of a user's knowledge of at least one of the following is essential:

- SRS
- Basic or any other major high-level language
- dBase
- on-line computer systems

Application forms and job descriptions are available from the Housing Department, London Borough of Hillingdon, Uxbridge Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3PH. Tel: 01-895 5555. Closing date: March 22, 1985.

GRAMPAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

SENIOR PLANNING ASSISTANT

(INFORMATION AND RESEARCH)

Ref: 107085. Key appointment in Research and Information section

which undertakes a heavy research workload and provides a wide range of reports on an annual basis in addition to supporting the structure planning activities of the department and a wider corporate role within the authority.

We are seeking an enthusiastic person with a knowledge of computer research, forecasting and policy matters to join a small team concerned with monitoring economic change in one of the most dynamic areas of the nation's economy consequent upon the growth of the oil and gas industry.

Written applications, giving full personal details, qualifications and experience, together with names of 2 referees should be lodged with the Director of Manpower Services, Woodhill House, Aberdeen AB9 2LU, by March 22. Further details available on request. Tel: 083222 ext 2274.

PRINCIPAL RESEARCH AND PLANNING OFFICER

£14,358-£15,387 p.a.

This key post reporting to the Assistant Director, Management and Planning offers a challenging opportunity to work with elected members and top management in the development, implementation and monitoring of educational policy and will involve taking a leading role in the production of the Directorate's Service Plan.

You must be able to demonstrate a high level of intellectual ability, hold a degree or equivalent and present evidence of innovation and achievement in policy planning. You will lead a small enthusiastic research and planning team and must possess an appreciation of research techniques and management information systems and have the ability to utilise them in policy planning and development. Ideally you will have experience at senior level in a Local Educational Authority though applicants with policy planning experience from a wide range of backgrounds will be considered.

A Union Membership Agreement is in operation.

Application forms (Ref: E3385G) are available from the Directorate Personnel Office, Directorate of Educational Services, 4th Floor, Provincial House, Market Street, Bradford BD1 1NP. Tel: 0274 752536.

We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from candidates of any age, sex, race or disability unless otherwise stated.

CITY OF BRADFORD METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

HEALTH EDUCATION COUNCIL

NORTH EAST THAMES REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

(NETRA)

SMOKING PROJECT

RESEARCHER

SCALE 9 £1,367-£11,362 p.a. (inclusive)

The Health Education Council is funding this project initially for one year to investigate District Health Authority policies and activities relating to smoking and health.

The researcher will work throughout the NETRA. Candidates should have social research experience in the field of health and preventive medicine. They need to be enthusiastic and committed to work in this field.

Car owner essential.

For further details or information contact:

Olive Boles 01-472 0111.

For application form and job description, contact: Shirley Taylor, Personnel Department, St Clement's Hospital, New Road, London E3 4LL. Tel: 01-980 1129.

CLOSING DATE: March 28, 1985.

Trafford Borough Council

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

AREA MANAGER

for Social Services (West). Salary P02 £11,025 - £11,889 p.a.

Applications are invited from qualified and experienced Social Work Managers for the above post situated in the West of Trafford, Filston, Davyhulme, Carrington and Partington communities.

For informal discussion please contact Mr MacDonald Ext 2405. Quotations ref: 1029.

SENIOR OFFICER

(Mental Handicap Services) Salary Grade S01/2 £9,477 rising to £11,025.

To head the fieldwork aspects of these expanding and developing services, Community Mental Health Teams and a Rehabilitation Officer have been appointed. The "care and control" model of care has been adopted and a joint policy document exists.

Managerial flair, with a social work qualification and sound knowledge of mental handicap services are essential. Quoting ref: E125.

Application forms and further information from Director of Social Services, 250, Boy 14, Westwood, Westwood Road, Sale, M33 1DQ. Telephone 061 969 6161, ext 2455, quoting appropriate ref. Closing date: March 22, 1985.

NORTH WEST THAMES REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

STATISTICS AND OPERATIONAL RESEARCH SECTION

STATISTICIAN

(£5,933 to £10,473 p.a. (inclusive of London Weighting))

A statistician/operational research scientist is required to assist in a small team, which is mainly concerned with providing information and analytical methods relevant to the planning of health services. Candidates should have a degree or similar qualification in a statistical discipline and be able to effectively communicate their ideas to others. The section has extensive computer facilities.

Relevant experience would be a considerable advantage. The appointment will be made on one of three grades according to qualifications and experience.

The salary scales are: Higher Clerical Officer: £5,933-£6,967 (inclusive); General Administrative Assistant: £6,967-£7,999 (inclusive); Senior Administrative Assistant: £7,999-£9,021 (inclusive).

Job description and application forms available from the Regional Personnel Office, North West Thames Regional Health Authority, 40 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 5QR. Telephone 01-262 5011. X411 (answer phone) quoting reference E3712.

Closing date for application forms: March 27, 1985.

TRADES UNION CONGRESS

ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANT

Required for work on Economic, Industrial and Collective bargaining issues.

Salary from £10,388-£13,623 by annual increments (including London Weighting).

Write as soon as possible and not later than March 15 to:

The General Secretary, Trades Union Congress, Congress House, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS, for details and application form quoting reference TUC 1C.

The TUC is an equal opportunities employer.

Inner London Education Authority

SOUTHWARK INSTITUTE OF ADULT EDUCATION

Queen's Road, Croydon, Surrey

St Mary's Road, SE15 5EA

INDUSTRIAL LANGUAGE TRAINING

ANTI RACIST TRAINING AT WORK

Applications are invited for a Lecturer Grade 1 at the South London Institute of Adult Education, 100, Queen's Road, Croydon, Surrey. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of a user's knowledge of at least one of the following is essential:

- SRS
- Basic or any other major high-level language
- dBase
- on-line computer systems

We are looking for someone with the ability to help plan and run courses on anti-racism and equality issues.

We need a colleague with either direct experience in these areas or an ability to apply their present skills to anti-racism, thereby working with a small multi-racial team to develop a user's knowledge of at least one of the following is essential:

- SRS
- Basic or any other major high-level language
- dBase
- on-line computer systems

Application forms and job descriptions are available from the South London Institute of Adult Education, 100, Queen's Road, Croydon, Surrey. Tel: 01-895 5555. Closing date: March 22, 1985.

Law and Administration Department

COMMITTEE ASSISTANT

£5,579 p.a. rising to £7,077 p.a. inc.

This post provides a secretarial support to the Committee of the Law and Administration Department.

The postholder will deal with the compilation and dissemination of information to elected members of the Council and will be responsible for the maintenance of the Council's records and the preparation of the Council's reports and minutes.

Good opportunities exist in Local Government for persons of the right calibre to achieve early promotion.

Applicants should be under 35 years of age and will have a degree or other relevant qualification.

Application forms from the Controller of Law and Administration, 25, Martineau Street, London W1N 5AS. Tel: 01-582 5611, ext 2227. Closing date: March 22, 1985.

RAJ SUH

01-582 5611, ext 2227

CLOSING DATE: March 22, 1985

HANCOCK is an Equal Opportunities Employer

COMPUTER MANAGER

The Scottish Urban Archaeological Research Unit (SUARU) is seeking a Computer Manager to manage the unit's computer system.

Further details from SUARU, 55 South Meadow, Perth, 95 223501.

WEST YORKSHIRE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

An Equal Opportunities Employer

RECREATION & ARTS DIVISION, ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT - POST EXCAVATION PROGRAMME

The Archaeology Unit has been undertaking excavation at a Roman site in Castleford. The site has been excavated by a team of experienced archaeologists and the results of the excavation will be published in a book. We require a post-excavation officer to assist in the preparation of the book and to undertake the post-excavation work.

ARCHAEOLOGISTS

(£5,922 - £8,428)

are required for post-excavation work. The successful candidate will be responsible for the preparation of the book and the post-excavation work.

ASSISTANT ARCHAEOLOGISTS

(£5,328 - £7,769)

are required to assist in the preparation of the book and the post-excavation work. The successful candidate will be responsible for the preparation of the book and the post-excavation work.

ARCHAEOLOGIST (ENVIRONMENTAL)

(£5,922 - £8,428)

to process and prepare reports on the environmental impact of various sites, dating from the late pre-historic to medieval periods.

Closing date: 15th March 1985.

Application forms and further details are available from and should be returned to the Director of Recreation Services, 3 St John's North, Wakefield WF1 3QA. Tel: Wakefield 501111 and 52601. Please state which grade of work you are interested in.

VICTORIA HEALTH AUTHORITY

DISTRICT FOOD POLICY CO-ORDINATOR

SCALE 9 Salary: £9,298 - £11,881

Applications are invited from health or educational professionals with experience in the development of food policy. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of the food policy and the co-ordination of the food policy work.

The Food Policy is an approved policy of the Health Authority. It is planned to be implemented over a period of 10 years, directed by the District Food Policy Group. Initial meetings have been held and implementation in two local Mental Health Hospitals has begun.

For further information please contact Nicky Treweek, District Health Education Officer, Victoria Health Authority, 100, Kings Road, London SW10, Tel: 01-332 5455.

Application forms and job descriptions available from Kim Taylor, Unit Personnel Officer, Community Health Centre, 100, Kings Road, London SW10, Tel: 01-332 5455.

Closing date for applications: April 1, 1985. Interview date: April 18, 1985.

NORTHUMBERLAND

RURAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Salary £10,716 to £11,562 per annum

Are you looking for a new interesting post working in the attractive Northumberland countryside?

We are seeking someone with relevant experience in Local Government or similar body, to assist in drawing up a development programme to help rural communities in Northumberland. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of the programme and the co-ordination of the programme work.

A degree or diploma in Town and Country Planning, Economics or other appropriate discipline would be an advantage. Based in Hexham with a leased car provided, the contract will be initially for three years.

Assistance with housing, removal and local fees will be given and further information and application forms are available from the undersigned to be returned by March 25, 1985.

ALAN BATTY, Chief Executive.

Tynesdale District Council, Hexham House, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 5NH. Tel: Hexham 01572 64341 644011.

TWO FULL-TIME

EXPERIENCED ADVICE WORKERS

needed for busy neighbourhood Advice Centre in Peckham, South London, serving a multi-ethnic community.

Salary £7,780 inclusive.

Five weeks holiday. Includes some evenings/Saturday work share considered.

Telephone 01-639 2745

for application form.

Closing date: March 22, 1985.

Arts and Recreation Department

MUSEUM CURATOR

Grade: S0P01 (38 - 38) £9,477 to £11,562

Required for MAIDSTONE MUSEUM and ART GALLERY which is housed in 16th Century Manor House and contains some of the best collections outside London. The Museum is situated in the heart of the town and is a popular attraction for visitors to the town.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of the Museum and the co-ordination of the Museum work.

For further information or informal discussion about any of the above posts, please contact Peter Wood, Museum Officer, Maidstone Museum and Art Gallery, 17th Century House, 17th Century House, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1JF. Tel: Maidstone 06225 52240.

In approved circumstances relocation expenses of up to £2,000 are payable. Further details on request.

Application forms and job descriptions from the Director of Social Services, Personnel Section, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME1 1JF. Telephone: Maidstone 06225 52240. Closing date: March 18, 1985.

Equal Opportunities Policy: Applications are welcome from suitably qualified and/or experienced people regardless of race, ethnic origin, religion, sex, marital status or disability.

Age Concern Lewisham

JACK OR JILL OF ALL TRADES?

Real opportunity for enthusiastic and enterprising person to recruit, train, and lead teams of Volunteers to help Lewisham's retired citizens. Desirable post offering tremendous job satisfaction and responsibility for friendly, adaptable co-worker. No age barrier.

Salary £8,100 per annum inclusive

Contact Age Concern Lewisham, 20 Broadhill Road, Catford, London SE6 4JL. Tel: 01-895 5555. Closing date: March 15, 1985.

Interviews to be held as soon as possible after closing date.

Our jobs are open equally to all races and both sexes.

The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation

Has a vacancy for an

EMPLOYMENT OFFICER

to undertake research into

The rift round the miners' hearth



Peter Jenkins

RECONCILIATION? — Between whom? Between managers and men, police and communities, miner and miner? Some of the local and personal animosities engendered by the strike may reach into the grave, as they did after 1926. But when the Prime Minister spoke of "reconciliation" not perhaps, the word to spring naturally to her lips — what did she have in mind? Something more surely than the need to mend local communities, some sense perhaps that as the miners' strike ends, the community of the nation itself feels divided in a more profound sense.

This sense of national rift — quite the opposite of the feeling forged by the war in the Falklands — may be the first and chief legacy of the strike. It will help to explain the change in the tone of public opinion in the last few weeks. I doubt very much whether the public changed its attitudes, set firm over a year, towards Arthur Scargill or the merits of the dispute between the National Union of Min-

workers and the Coal Board or Government. But in the end its heart warmed towards the miners themselves.

As the violent images of last summer and autumn gave way to stories of human dignity in suffering, it became more obvious to the public that there could not be a hundred thousand Arthur Scargills out there, whatever the gutter Tory press might say. No, a hundred thousand British families would engage in a feat of courage and endurance which deserved at least the respect of the nation.

The notion of "two nations" — which has become again a current cliché — suggests a picture of a civil war between the classes, or the North and the South. From time to time it looked a little like this as the legions of the Metropolitan Police engaged with the barbarian hordes. But the miners' dispute was not a North-South issue in any simple sense. Trade unionists in the North — at the power stations and steel works, in the docks and depots — were no more willing to give practical support to the miners than their colleagues in the South. The working classes of the North gave money at football grounds but not much else; support for the miners was nowhere stronger than at the GLC and Lambeth borough council.

The greatest lesson of the last 12 months is the struggle itself, said Arthur Scargill at the moment of defeat. The lesson is that there is a shortage of volunteers for the class war these days. The miners were on their own throughout. Yet in the end their lonely struggle

did seem to touch the conscience of the nation. Perhaps it is because they are such an evocative symbol of the past. For the North is the casualty of the past. The industrial revolution was our nearest equivalent to the American civil war, profoundly divisive event, socially destructive and physically scarring, which established — or, rather, reinforced — the hegemony of one part of the country over another.

When decline set in, when the Edwardian party was over, it was the North which bore the brunt of it. Slowly but inexorably the workshop of the world became the scrapheap of Britain. As Brian Robson, who is Professor of Geography at the University of Manchester, points out in a timely polemical pamphlet, "The economic consequences of the first world war dealt the North a blow from which it has never really recovered."

"The North," says Professor Robson, "epitomised by its roll-call of shrinking cities — Manchester, Newcastle, Leeds and above all Liverpool — is still paying the price for having made Britain into a wealthy nation."

We have good reason for that. Conscience. What for the rest of us is a relative decline, comfortable enough in its way and not without some charms, is for the old industrial North a decline of the absolute variety. Liverpool is a modern Carthage.

When he centres the North on its cities, Professor Robson touches on another point, for the "two nation" metaphor today fits better not with two classes, or two

nations literally, North and South, but with different, more contemporary divides. A second pamphlet by the sociologist Michael Mann** sees Britain divided "cities versus the rest" and society split not on a simple class model, but between interest groups, home-owners and tenants, taxpayers and welfare recipients, public and private employees.

Possessing more cities, the North has more than its share of welfare recipients, and less than its share of home-owners, but the "two nations" — all of the divisions and relative deprivations of a late industrial society — exist within the North, and within what used to be called the working class.

Nowhere is decline more absolute than in a pit village without a pit. But when the miners said they were fighting for their communities — "community" was, apart from "scab" perhaps, the word most frequently heard during the dispute — they may have meant something more than that they were defending the livelihood of their villages. They were asserting an idea of community which is as redundant in a post-industrial society as a miner in an uneconomic coalmine.

In the moral remoteness of their world they took their stand on values which have small place in the ethics of Thatcherism. In the face of superior forces, like the Polish cavalry charging against the German tanks, they pit their notion of community against the new cult of the individual, threw social need in the face of economics and mutuality in the face of money, and placed class loyalty above the claims of

national interest. It was the old religion resisting the reform of the new.

What presumption, the stuff of tragedy, to take on the gods in this way! To the rest of the country the pit village, with its slag heap for a funeral pyre, didn't seem like the model of a new and better society. What could coal have to do with the future of a country kept afloat by oil? Who burns the dirty stuff at home these days apart from miners? Not many.

Every time the Labour Party went on about the "case for coal" it conjured up a sepia vision of the past. The hubris of the miners was to carry his pit coal were king still, and to take it upon themselves to put their muscle, and their muscle alone — no longer what it was — behind their own view of the universe.

And yet they touched the conscience of the rest of us and, in the end, as they marched back behind their banners and their bands, their sheer intransigence had become the most moving of their qualities.

Why? Perhaps because change is a shared experience and we can comprehend the innocence of its victims. We talk about the "laws of economics" but, if laws they are, there is no justice to them. It is not a miner's fault that he is poor, it is a politician's, that the industrial North is in decline, that he lives amid a sea of unemployment in a world awash with oil. To defy such reality may be foolhardy, but blame-worthy? Who is to say so?

It is precisely in this fashion that the philosophical or moral implications of what we know as "Thatcherism"

may be beginning to stick in the throat of the nation. Economic realism is all very well — how can we possibly go on mining coal at a cost twice or three times its value? — but the idea that economic change is some form of just retribution, brought about by market forces, is an abdication of the social and moral responsibility which belongs to government.

According to the monetarist logic, the unemployed bring unemployment upon themselves through perpetuating the "rigidities" of the labour market. But even if the explanation is correct in aggregate, how is any one of nearly four million unemployed to be held responsible for the rigidities of the labour market? The welfare system may represent a gross misallocation of resources, bureaucratically maladministered but — even were this true — how can the just remedy be to punish the recipients of the system? Town halls are in the hands of profiteers and Jooney Socialists, but how are they to be punished by visiting still greater deprivations on the inhabitants of the inner cities?

Somewhere in the argument there is a moral flaw and that, perhaps, is where the miners put their finger. Jean Jacques Rousseau made the same point long ago. "The nature of things does not madden us, only ill-will does."

Where is the North? Brian Robson, (North of England Regional Consortium, City of Manchester Public Relations Office). ** Socialism can Survive. Michael Mann (Fabian Society).

MICHAEL WHITE reports from Washington

How to cop a slow riot

STREET CRIMES like mugging may be a form of "slow rioting", the response of disaffected urban minorities to the enormous growth in police firepower since the real riots of the 1960s, a new report suggests.

According to the Eisenhower Foundation, a private sector version of the Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence set up after the 1968 riots, many of the fears expressed in that commission's report appear to be fulfilled with better-off civilians living in "fortified cells" and inner cities becoming "places of terror", as predicted in this context. "A city street is less vulnerable to police hardware and to command-and-control tactics than a group of looters. It is possible that some crimes, like street mugging, became the safer and more private expression of protest in the 1970s," says the report, which is published by Yale University Press.

The foundation also notes that US crime is of astronomical proportions compared with similar societies with a homicide rate (at 9.4 per 100,000) eight times Britain's, 18 times Denmark's and even nine times Canada's. Another 191.2 Americans in each 100,000 were robbed in the years under survey, compared with 21.4 in Britain.

While acknowledging the importance of improving the criminal justice system, the report goes further than the fashionable concept of citizen involvement in crime prevention, like the neighbourhood watch schemes which simply displace crimes elsewhere. Linking prevention with economic development, youth employment, and extended family support schemes, it emphasises the need to give people "a stake in their own turf" through neighbourhood schemes.

The report coincides with a Justice Department survey showing that 61 per cent of those going to prison in 1979 had served time for earlier offences and even more conspicuous, that 28 per cent would not have been available to commit another crime if they had served the maximum sentence.

As support for the New York subway vigilante, Bernard Goetz, who shot four would-be assailants, has shown (57 per cent think he did right according to a Newsweek poll), the present mood of America is fearful and severe. The number of felons in prison has doubled in a decade to 438,000, and 224,000 are in jail for misdemeanours or awaiting trial. In a predictable Reaganian trend, some goals are being privatised.

The first public speech in Florida this week of the new Attorney General, Jeb McInnis, claimed, with this mood, describing the US as being at a particularly critical crossroads in the history of crime and law enforcement. President Reagan's close associate and former California prosecutor complained that such statistics showed there was a "revolving door". The recent notion that the right to carry a gun in US crime was attributable to the ageing of society (making for fewer young criminals), might simply reflect heavier sentences on career criminals, said Mr McInnis.

In a potentially significant pointer to his thinking, he praised the trend in the Supreme Court away from extending the rights of defendants, singling out a case where evidence ruled out once have been ruled out of court was now being allowed because the police had acted in good faith. Within 24 hours of Mr McInnis's remarks, further evidence emerged of the pressure on the Supreme Court. One of its members, Mr Justice Harry Blackmun, revealed that a bullet was fired through the window of his flat in suburban Virginia last week, the latest and most violent of the threats against him since he wrote the court's controversial decision in 1973 legalising abortion up to six months.

This decision is under pressure from vocal lobbies which have — President Reagan's support. Meanwhile on Monday the court itself appeared to chip away the 1966 "Miranda Rule" whereby confessions from suspects who have not been advised of their right to silence are held invalid. By 6-3, the court decided to accept a confession if repeated after a suspect has been warned — a crippling blow to the rights of the accused according to one dissenting justice.

The revidivist statistics have been used here by the Justice Department's own criminal division chief, Mr Stephen Trott, as "dramatic evidence" that locking people up may reduce crime — a reversal of more liberal trends in past years which have emphasised rehabilitation and flexible sentencing.

PETER FIDDICK on how Auntie gives value for licence money

Beeb scores a beta plus

THE Past Marwick report into the "value for money" rendered by the BBC is quite the most boring document one might hope to encounter in a lifetime's reporting of public life. Mr Stuart Young, chairman of the BBC's governors, says he took 10 hours to read the whole thing, and there are moments when even the 32-page published version seems to be heading that way.

At the time of a head-master's lecture, the school enough pupil who has actually learned a lot from his last lecture, lacking a central theme, it can only pick various bits from the possible savings on contract cleaners, to the need to integrate the still libraries.

Those seeking sensation will light upon the fact that the management consultants fancy the dream of Rih Cotton, managing director of television, to axe the control-

Whitehall nexus, and in particular the Home Office and Downing Street. The present licence fee was set to last until the end of this month. The Home Secretary does not have to change it by then, but it would be damaging and indecisive not to.

He has to make a case to the Cabinet, and above all to the Prime Minister, and no minister responsible for broadcasting has ever had much information on which to base it. The Past Marwick report, even the confidential three-volume version he has, is only a part. The report on the National Services, published last month, added another gloss. But since the mid-seventies, the information the Home Office can routinely demand, as the licence decision looms, about the BBC's economics and intentions, has become ever more detailed.

So all that remains is for the political decision to be taken. If Leon Brittan intends to stand by his own repeated statement that the licence fee should be granted for three years, and if he intends in asking the BBC to commission this £250,000 study to have an objective measure to temper his colleagues' own opinions on the necessary sum, the argument could be rational, if tense.

But there is a joker in the pack, in the shape of Mrs Thatcher, egged on by diverse interests who look to harness her sense of ideological mischief and put it to stirring the broadcasting business up in a big way. They range from certain advertising interests, or programme producers who dislike the big corporation ethos, to even bigger media giants such as the Murdoch empire, whose Times newspaper has now written its fifth letter on the need to sell off the BBC and break the mould.

In this atmosphere, the rumour machine whirrs, and its front-runner in recent weeks has been that this Government will keep the BBC on a short rein while setting up yet another inquiry. An inquiry into the financing of broadcasting was in fact the idea floated last autumn, by some senior figures, and the media largely as a defensive measure against a feared rush to fragmentation and commercialism by the entrepreneurial Right. Now, it has been taken over by those who see that it could be easily packed with sympathisers.

At the BBC, Stuart Young and Alasdair Milne know only what they hear through the lobby machine — Fleet Street's and their own — and know not what it is worth. Now, they can only reiterate their claims to have opened the books and to have asked for nothing more than their stated plans and services need.

"I would not put my signature to a financial statement," did not believe in," says Young, the accountant. Milne said yesterday, of Past Marwick: "There are no words like profligacy in this report. There is no mention of overmanning. There is no mention of massive bureaucracy."



Under the new management, dear, will we have to bargain?



A Basque spokesman in the days before the hoods came off

SIEGFRIED BUSCHSCHLUTER talks to a returned ETA leader

The fighter who doffed his mask

JOSEBA AULESTIA is 32 years old, tall and strongly built, with close-cropped black hair and a black moustache under a rather prominent nose. He has an athlete's figure, untypical for a Spaniard, but nothing unusual in the Basque country. For nearly two years, Joseba, who was the last on the most-wanted list of the Spanish police, sought as one of the leaders of the political-military wing of ETA, the Basque separatist movement.

A few days ago, Joseba presented himself to the Spanish authorities after returning from the south of France where he had been living in a hide-out since February 1978. Joseba Aulestia was the last on a list of 144 former members of ETA Politiko-Militar who were not guilty of capital crimes and whose reintegration into Spanish society was negotiated between the Madrid Government and leaders of Euzkadi Ekuzarra, a Leftist Basque party. Joseba has 15 charges of criminal association pending, but is now out on bail.

Like his comrades, Joseba decided to give up the armed struggle in September 1982, following an 18-month ceasefire declared by the Politiko-Militar in the wake of the attempted coup by Colonel Antonio Tejero in February 1981. The ceasefire was designed to allow the political parties to try to solve the problem of the Basque country without the threat of intervention by the army.

On September 30, 1982, ETA Politiko-Militar held a news conference in the South of France to announce its dissolution. For the first time, ETA leaders appeared in public unhooded and without arms. The conference was chaired by Joseba Aulestia. The communiqué announcing the disbanding of ETA was read out by Miren Lourdes Alcoriza. They have since married. Miren, 27, returned to Spain last year, and they now live in Ondarroa, a Basque fishing port where Joseba was born and where he has found work as a carpenter in a firm making crates for the fishing industry.

Looking back on that decision to disband, both Joseba and Miren feel that it was the right move. Instead of pushing things forward and furthering the autonomy process, the armed struggle put the brakes on political dynamism. We realised that after nearly two years of ceasefire we had had no influence on political events in the Basque country. So we decided to give up the armed struggle and fight for our objectives in a political party.

Joseba told me when I met him and his wife in Bilbao, that "it was not an easy decision" to abandon what he had been doing for the last ten years. But he does not feel that the struggle has been in vain. "I still believe that it has been worthwhile, but it was no longer serving any purpose," he admits that it is extremely difficult for members of an organisation like ETA to sit back and reflect on their actions. "You do have time to think, but you are always looking for reasons to go on with the armed struggle."

for the traditional rights of the Basque country was a way of making sure that justice was done to the Basques. Shortly after he joined ETA, in 1978, he was drafted into the Spanish army and sent to Melilla, the Spanish enclave in North Africa. There he spent his time "firing bullets all day long" after military service, he was put in charge of ETA's propaganda activities in Guipuzcoa, and he secretly crossed over into France in March 1976. He was elected onto the executive of ETA (PM). Both his father and his brother, Kepa (who is now secretary-general of Euzkadi Ekuzarra), were in jail at the time. In November 1977, he returned home under an amnesty granted to ETA members by the government of Adolfo Suarez. But in February 1978, he returned to France to continue the armed struggle.

To have given up the armed struggle does not mean abandoning the objectives he had been fighting for. "We believe that Euzkadi (the Basque country) must be a sovereign country. It is a nation, with its own language and its own culture. I personally believe that the class conflict must continue. We believe in a Socialist Euzkadi, in democratic socialism."

European community — a concept shared by Basque nationalists like Xabier Arzallus, the former leader of the Basque Nationalist Party. Like Arzallus, Joseba stresses the need for political solutions to the problem of violence in Euzkadi. To use the police will only strengthen the motives of those who want to carry on the armed struggle. The only political argument they have been left with, he says, is torture. There are still isolated cases of torture and mistreatment of ETA suspects by Spanish police in the Basque country.

Another reason for ETA's Militar to continue its campaign of violence has been the delay with which the central government has transferred to the Basque regional government the powers due to it under the autonomy statute of 1979. The process came to a virtual halt after the 1981 coup attempt.

Despite all this, Joseba is convinced that ETA's days are numbered. "ETA Militar has lost its political orientation," he says. "It is being kept alive only by its own internal dynamics. ETA Militar is no longer solving problems in the Basque country, it has become the number one problem."

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK: 'Why is it we read about the formation of the first all female executive in Washington DC and not here?' Mary Stack reports from America where women have become spectacularly employable, and where pressure for further change is coming from an unexpected quarter. Below, Conagh McDonald examines the Equal Pay Act ten years on, and Angela Neustatter points out that half the nation's women are on wages below the poverty line

LITTLE wonder that ex-fighter editor Tina Brown and other go-getters have hopped the Atlantic to grab a bit of real action. In England there are very few women doing anything of importance. She states glibly. She is not alone in her opinion either. Gay Bryant (ex-editor of Working Woman) is another Brit who prefers New York and who says she could never go back to the classism and sexism of England.

How different from the US where one sees women in positions of power and responsibility across the board (and boardroom); where one has legislation to back up equal pay and where it is taken for granted that most women will have a serious role in the major portion of their working lives. American women can boast of progress in concrete terms and the statistics speak for themselves. Not only do they make Supreme Court judges, oil-rig engineers, senators, bank presidents and astronauts with individual effort, they are extremely active as a group. They are fully prepared to lobby for their rights and jockey for the attention they believe they deserve so that their voice is heard and heeded on a much larger scale.

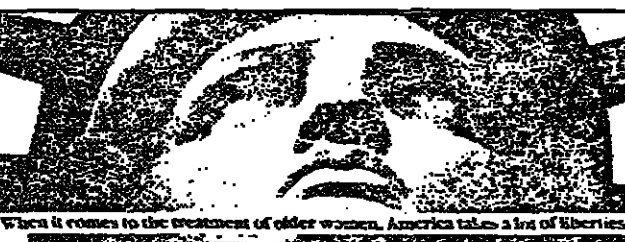
Not so the ambivalent English equivalent who knows her place — or at least suspects the woman who toes the line, who plays with the notion of equality yet simultaneously builds an intricate safety net into her ambitions to allow for the inevitable

failure, if she really does know what she wants. But then doesn't she do something about it? And before anyone starts bleating back at me about Maggie and laudable female achievement, you can save your breath. As they say Stateside, she has done "zippo" to further the cause of women. It is not being in a position of immense public interest and unique international status. She may as well be a man in drag for all the encouragement she has given to women on the way up.

Why is it we read about the formation of the first all-female executive in Washington DC and not here? Well the obvious reason I imagine, is that we lack the number of women at this level to make such a headline viable. But maybe there is another deeper reason — we lack the flair, confidence and sheer audacity of our American sisters. And this argument is not just directed at the young or established professionals, the few who have broken through or worked round the barriers. No, it is aimed at women everywhere.

An excellent example of coordinated female effectiveness can be seen in a group we would least associate with being strident and assertive, older women. Here in Britain, as elsewhere, older women are regarded at best as amiable old ladies, at worst as a group of weak and defenceless pensioners. The label is unjust, unkind and unsuitable. And in America women have taken it upon

A finger in the apple pie



From the cover of an OWL booklet

themselves to do something to change it. Jeanne Saeletan is one of the founders of OWL, the Older Women's League. OWL is a national grassroots organisation formed in October, 1980, with the exclusive objective of aiding women in their middle years and beyond. According to Saeletan, the operation was set up to help women aged between 45-55 years, to help them to find their own way to aid each other and when individual assistance isn't adequate for the problem, then we rally together to effect public action. Saeletan describes herself as an aging feminist, but says the League creates no barriers to those who seek admission. The older woman is desperately in

need of a new and accurate image, she contends, and what makes people realise their feminism is simply confronting a problem and seeing the discrimination. "Don't Agonise, Organise!" urged Tish Sommers, founder of the organisation, at OWL's second national convention held in Washington DC last summer. In more of a mandate than a slogan to her members, OWL's 10,000 members should be seen as one of the 50 states of the country, but what are their chief concerns? Basic living conditions, according to Saeletan, OWL's House Co-ordinator, born of the fact that women live longer, poorer and are more likely to end up living alone for the last 15-20 years of their life. Seventy-three

per cent of the people living in poverty over 65 in the US are women. This is a fact of life that few women are prepared for, yet it is attributed to a number of features similar to American society. Many women's health insurance is linked to their husbands, for instance, and this may terminate after divorce or the death of their spouse.

"Secondly, many jobs that women traditionally perform are low-paid and part-time, which means they are frequently not covered by benefits. Furthermore, many women lose out financially through being 'input' caregivers: their family commitments have often had to take precedence over career objectives and so they penalise their pension coverage after retirement."

OWL's role is frequently one of "pulling bandages on open sores," says Saeletan, since the problems are sometimes caused by a society which requires a radical re-ordering of priorities, but a woman still has to be helped. "The objective is to open doors so we teach people how to lobby their local politicians — no matter how old they are."

OWL did exactly this last year with a militant campaign in the media on Mother's Day. Ads in the national press read "For men, let's create retirement plans' medical benefits, profit sharing and gold watches. For women, they created Mother's Day."

So you can see it would be

wrong to think that this band of elderly activists will be easily appeased or mistaken for a party of tame pensioners — far from it. The National Office of OWL in Washington DC is kept busy testifying before the government on a number of crucial issues like budget cuts and social security payments, especially when legislation is being formulated.

The rewards for Saeletan are simple, but short-lived. "It is gratifying to see how good people can feel when they have control over their lives," she explains, "but sometimes I do despair about the overall state of the country." A second term of office for Reagan has spelled a precarious passage for much of the OWL legislation. But nonetheless Saeletan remains undaunted. "As Mao and Doris Lessing have preached, we can bloom with age," she assures with a wry smile.

So OWL would seem to carry a message not just for older women, but for us all, to imitate — if we build together we can create change. Networking for the common good is a formidable force to be reckoned with, but the choice is ours. If we do not want to end up as a statistic in Social Trends, as one of a growing number of women in poor households here in England — then we must act. And we could do worse than take a leaf out of OWL's book. If the future does lie within us as women, then where are all the architects and engineers and planners?



On the picket line — picture by Kenneth Saunders

The verdict after ten years — must try harder

TEN YEARS ago, the Sex Discrimination Act was passed. At the same time, the Equal Pay Act came fully into force, and the maternity provisions of the Employment Protection Act (1978) gave many women statutory maternity pay and job reinstatement rights.

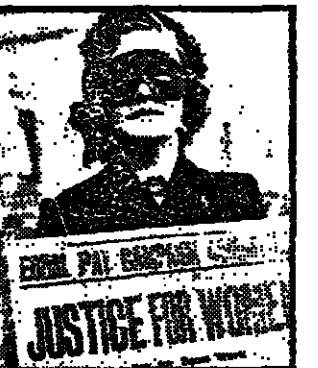
Undoubtedly, these laws have removed some of the most blatant forms of discrimination. Women are no longer asked to provide a male guarantor or a husband's signature when applying for credit or a mortgage as a matter of course. Job advertisements no longer specify that men only need apply. They have helped to change the climate of opinion, a climate which has persisted in spite of the government's efforts to reverse the trend for the growing involvement of women at work.

But these same anti-discrimination laws have failed to eliminate discrimination. The examples are everywhere. Take building societies, which may refuse to take the higher earning wife's income as the basis for a mortgage in the blind belief that the man is the main breadwinner. Their treatment of lone parents, especially women separated from their husbands, struggling to maintain the family house, can be harshly prejudiced.

The job advertisement may offer equal opportunities for male and female applicants, but the job involves doing not. It contains a question about a woman's domestic situation which a man would not be asked. (This persists even though it is, in fact, illegal to ask such questions.) That was the recent decision taken by the Employment Appeals Tribunal. As for less tangible areas of attitudes, cruder chauvinism may have disappeared over the last 10 years, but change has been slow and painful.

You may well ask, have

women acquired any new rights at all through the anti-discrimination legislation? The answer is no more than a qualified yes! Ten million women, 40 per cent of the labour force, more than ever before, now work in full or part-time jobs. Women spend more of their adult lives at work, and less time in having and rearing children. But the law has failed to change the kind of work women do.



Campaigner, 1952

Women still form the majority of the vast army of clerical workers. They are the teachers, nurses and social workers, hairdressers, cooks, cleaners and home helps. In fact, three classifications of employment: professionals in health, education and welfare; clerical work and catering, cleaning and hairdressing account for over two thirds of all women's jobs. Even in industry women still dominate traditional industries of textiles, clothing and footwear, food, drink and tobacco manufacturing.

Women are found in every other industrial sector usually as semi-skilled factory workers, except mining and construction. There is some evidence that women are moving into non-traditional areas, such as public administration, metal manufacture and engineering, but the increases are small.

By contrast, the three occupational orders with the highest proportion of male employees, managerial, metal bashing, mining and construction account for less than half of male employment. Men's work is still far more varied than women's work. Men still have the lion's share of the more skilled, responsible and better paid work. The overall pattern of women's work has changed little over the past 80 years, in spite of the legislation and the good intentions.

Between 1977 and 1983, the number of female journalists increased by 1,428, but accountants by over 2,000 between 1978 and 1983, and many more became barristers and solicitors. Overall the proportion of women in top jobs, according to the Registrar General's statistics, doubled between 1971 and 1981, but is still a far smaller proportion of female employment than of male employment.

Women still do not use the educational system as effectively as men do. The General Household Survey 1982 published last year showed that although rather more women than men in the 25-49 age group had continued full-time education after school, far more men than women used it to attend university or to obtain a degree or other qualifications. Even amongst university graduates, men were more than twice as likely as women to be in professional occupations.

The good news from the survey comes from the comparison of young men and women with similar educational backgrounds. That showed that there has been some progress towards equal job opportunities, at least in the initial stages of their careers. But men are still more likely to improve their occupational status as they become older and more experienced, partly because they take up jobs with a career

structure and partly because of their ability to undertake continuous full-time work. Plainly family commitments hamper women's progress. Equality cannot be achieved without proper state child care facilities. While this does not form part of anti-discrimination laws, it has to be part of the state's provision.

So the verdict at the end of the decade? Must try harder. Far tougher laws are essential to overcome discrimination. These should include two vital changes: the burden of proof should be shifted from the person complaining about discrimination to the alleged discriminator.

Employers should be required to discriminate in favour of women by recruitment, training and promotion into jobs not previously held by women, using the methods of enforcement by threat of withdrawal of government contracts introduced in the USA twenty years ago. Tough, rigorous action, accompanied by better social services, including child care, will alone create the context in which women can achieve true equality.

Dr Conagh McDonald MP is Opposition spokesperson on Treasury and Civil Service.

Conagh McDonald

AN OPTIMISTIC picture of today's working woman as a high achieving, high earning being, has been so beguilingly painted by the popular media in the past few months that we can be forgiven for imagining things are upbeat for the nation's women who go to work.

But it is not quite like that. A truthful perspective finds the bulk of women workers clustered in jobs where the chances of promotion, let alone meteoric rise, are small and in many cases nonexistent. Nor are they exactly high earners — although the average national wage is approximately one hundred and seventy pounds a week

one woman in 20 earns less than eighty pounds per week and half the nation's women are on wages below the poverty line — set at one hundred and seven pounds gross. Emma McLennan, deputy director at the Low Pay Unit, describes this as "a crisis time" for women who go to work out of necessity and who do not belong to the "extremely small" number on high and rising incomes. She believes that with women's employment under attack, and with the low priority given by this government to the kind of work many women do, things will get worse. With this in mind the Unit has prepared a report specifically on the situation, for the women's TUC, to be published on March 11.

And while the Equal Pay Act has ironed out some pay discrepancies between men and women, it has not been so helpful to those in the industrial sectors and manual occupations. Where men in catering get an average one hundred and three pounds twenty pence a week, women get just eighty pounds twenty. A general labourer will get approximately one hundred and seven pounds, a nursing auxiliary gets about eighty four pounds and there are plenty of similar examples.

In their last survey, the Unit found 40 per cent of employers in Britain were defying the law by paying below the approximately £70 a week, fixed under Wages Council ruling in some cases. In private sector, because the earnings were a low for women as £35 for a 40-hour week or 80p an hour for piece work. But while the government are keen to enforce law and order in many areas, they are lax in their belief that employers must not be handicapped by being forced to pay what they term uneconomic wages — and of 9,842 employers found breaking the law by underpaying, only two were prosecuted.

So the Low Pay Unit have

begun setting up offices around the country, specifically to help workers to know and fight for their rights. And some indication of need is that the first of the offices opened in the West Midlands has been receiving some 70 enquiries a week. The bulk from women. Last month, the newest office in Greenwich opened and another will open in Manchester soon.

It is a move welcomed by Neil Kennerly at the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers Union, and he feels women are particularly in need of this kind of help and support. About 85 per cent of those employed in clothing manufacture are women and he talks despairingly of the body blow the industry has suffered in the last five years.

He says: "More than one hundred thousand jobs have been lost because firms have collapsed, and in many cases those were the better run businesses with a decent wage structure and reasonable conditions. They have been undercut by companies which pay wages below minimum wages and run factories remarkably like the sweat shops of the Victorian days. In the East End of London alone we reckon there are 2,000 unregistered workshops employing perhaps 20,000 people."

And he says it is ironic to find unions and the Low Pay Unit fighting to save the Wages Council which attempts to protect wages in the lower paid side of the private sector, because the government seems likely to abolish it.

Angela Neustatter

Msprint

NAGS, Shrews, Crones, Viragos take heart. Mary Daly has restored your titles to their original glory. In *Pure Lust* (The Women's Press, £14.95) they are no longer terms of abuse but once again fine names for the "Lusty Spirits" of elemental women. When you get one of those officious forms that ask you to state your religion borrow from Dr Daly's terminology and put yourself down as a Nag-Gnostic.

Words are important to Elemental Women who by "Spinning/Spiraling Elemental Connections between Words and Sources" will "overcome" / transmute the verbiage of axes. Very given to the oblique/obscure stroke is Dr Daly not to mention irritating/irrational Use of Capital Letters.

But if you can bear with the style there is much good brain fodder. She makes a convincing case against the patriarchal religions lashing out at that arch "smoo" the apostle Paul and the "Queen of Heaven" John Paul Two. They are all part of the Cockocracy where a "perpetual state of Emergency" exists in which "some male-ordered activity is always made to appear prior in importance to the liberation of women."

It's exciting stuff a sort of

feminist Star Wars. Righteous Fury will sever us from the State of Severance. Lusty Women will be at one with the universe and we will aspire to the Spheres of the Third Realm.

As well as having all this excitement you will as an Elemental Feminist be able to blame men for everything — breast cancer, powdered milk, food poisoning, jet lag, even women who oppress and torture other women, though responsible for their actions are seen as mere "instruments of the sadostate."

Once we have thrown off all the restrictions but on our energies by men we will turn into the cosmic rhythms, be in Time with the Tides and will hear the Call of the Wild. We shall wander the hills and Cathy in Wuthering Heights will be our model. But (and I know this will disappoint a lot of you), Heathcliff won't be a chap.

From Star Wars to street fighting with Italian intrusions by Elizabeth A. Stanko (Routledge and Kegan Paul, £9.95). It's a careful, detailed study of women's experience of male violence and as such makes a pretty grim read. Stanko examines all the sexual aspects of male violence and

the complacent myths that abound on the subject. Battered wives and rape victims are still seen as deserving what they get, sexual harassment is a joke to many and incest thought to be totally non-existent. Her research shows the grim reality behind the complacency. Many more rapes occur than are ever reported, 75-80 per cent of incest incidents are new, and battered wives can end up being murdered wives.

Next time you walk home at night clutching a bunch of keys and affecting a nonchalant you don't feel, think of all the other women in all the many streets doing the same thing. Elizabeth Stanko thinks it's time we started complaining. "I die a Queen, but I would rather die the wife of Culppeper." They were the dying words of Catherine Howard, wife of Henry VIII. How about? Am I dying or is this my birthday? — that was Lady Astor's parting shot or Texas Guinan's. "I want to lie in state at Campbells. I want for once to give people the chance to see me without a cover charge." All culled from the death scene of Woman Talk: 2 another fine volume of quotes from Michael Newman and O'Connor (Macdonald, £3.95).

There's much wit and good sense in the collection: "Hungry people cannot be good at learning or producing anything except violence." "Politics are usually the executive expression of human immaturity." "Not only am I angry, but I'm also angry, at all the years I wasn't angry."

It's a varied selection with many unfamiliar quotations though it would have been improved by more precise references. Never mind plenty of Mae West, including "I'm tired, send one of them home."

Susan Jeffreys

Experience Artitechture. From \$4,000,000



AMERICAN DIARY

Linda Blandford

Palm Beach, Florida. A NEW high — or at least a level of some sort — has been reached in the business of selling real estate. Hail to the invention of "Artitechture," the concept behind a tiny housing estate on Palm Beach that comes complete with "communing with bodies of water, verdancy and privacy." At the Blossom Estate, reads the sole offering, "the native flora and the dignified constructions are at once harmonious with the highest realms of the senses. Experience the fusion. Experience Artitechture. From \$4,000,000."

Nowhere, they say, is quite like it used to be but Palm Beach is still more like it than anywhere. The recent storm and freeze have burned away large chunks of the huge green barriers of protective hedges and shrubbery that line the mansions by the ocean. Curious visitors, making the most of these unheard-of peepholes, cycle past, peering through disbelieving. Now and then, a juicy Baroness, caught on her thick gravelled driveway with

some fluffed Maltese terrier, bowls inside leaving behind an impression of straw-yellow hair and bauble-decked cleavage. Mostly there is silence or just a few glimpses of the most beautiful flower beds.

Each house more sumptuous than the last and so many of them inhabited solely by some shrivelled widow, living alone with her staff, evening out their lives around the Kennedy mansion, up at one end of the island, is shut up this year. How wonderful it looks through the heavy wrought iron gates around with "keep off" signs — as if Palm Beach gates ever suggest any other exhortation. Easy now to picture Rose Kennedy here last year — just another over-dressed, fragile old lady with her paint and hair-dye. And down the road, a world away, her grave is laid.

Young does not mean quite the same in Palm Beach as it does to the rest of us. The widows walkers — men in their plump and soft fifties, boys in their blond-washed thirties — would be more to be pitied than admired in harsher, more bracing climates. The ageing tennis pros with their \$50 an hour services, called in to English doubles with husbands who

drink too much, wives who are detected to be like and powerful on court — do these modern day dancing teachers ever remember their college ambitions, their hopes for status, clubs or titles in their own right?

There is in this month's Palm Beach Life, the local glossy, an advertisement that, within a peach-lined border, shows a blonde socialite-type in her forties, lying in an all-white satin bed, puffed up against quilted white cushions. She is wearing some kind of white tulle evening dress splattered with embroidered butterflies, three rows of pearls with matching bracelet and ring, stroking a white cat with one hand and laying the other on silver-wrapped gifts. Above her, pointed and lined face, thick with make-up, she wears a tiara of white and pink Christmas fairy lights that are actually lit up. "It reads the headline. Clearly, it makes sense to locals and sells whatever it is — fashion, I believe. Palm Beach is not a little bizarre. Let no one be surprised that its name has been copyrighted for a television series."

At dusk during the season, shortly after the maids and gardeners have been sent back over the bridges to West

Palm Beach (no relation), the well-lit and brightly lit cars and sedans start to edge out of the better driveways. Time for another ball: tennis, cancer, heart, Red Cross, polo, whatever.

They pull up at the Breakers' Hotel to let off owners, any one of which is dressed in a creation that costs easily more than the car in which it travelled. This is the dividing line of old and new money. Let Beverly Hills tinkle with its newest Mercedes and Rolls-Royces. The greatest status symbol of the rest of America — is here merely a conveyance. Old money likes to see itself as a link to historic Europe, to flagstones in the schloss, pheasants in the spinye, patina and snappy pomps.

What a joke it is to stand in the lobby of the Breakers watching the meeting of dazed hotel residents and old guard Palm Beach, the latter sweeping off to the gala cocktail hour in the Mediterranean room and a spot of noisy dinner-dancing next door in the Venetian ballroom.

Fellini himself could not have invented such character. The odd used-up minor English aristocrat, that appears, seems positively fresh

and innocent against the procession of ghastly ghastly wax-like sleepwalkers, pinched, tucked, lifted and replaced.

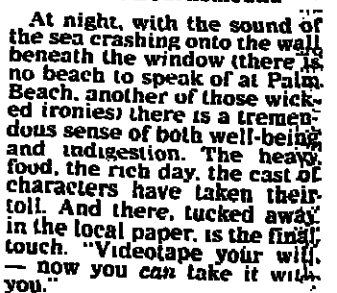
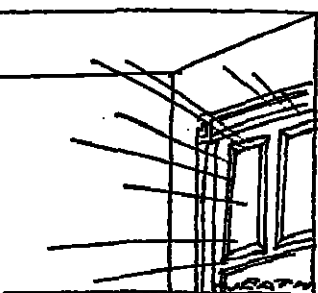
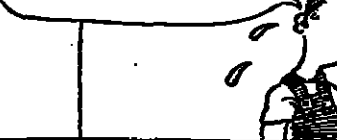
The Breakers, built in 1909 by the oil and railroad tycoon, Henry Flagler, and inspired by the Villa Medici in Florence, is not without pretensions of its own, of course. Not every outside hotel lobby of having a view over a "masterpiece of infinity" (the Atlantic ocean), or has at its front door a fountain copied from the Borgia, or hanging along the loggia fifteenth century Flemish tapestries. And yet in spite of all its attempts at grandeur — the Michelangelo ceiling painted by 75 imported masters, the tie and jacket only dress code, the \$205 a night minimum charge (\$241 with tax and all that), the marble and the lilyponds — the Breakers has nevertheless turned into a cosy family hotel.

The grandparents promenade around its splendid halls each afternoon, waiting eagerly for the tea, sandwiches and rich cakes that precede the six course set dinner. The grandchildren run and dart around the swimming pools, the parents play golf beneath the avenue of palms. On the easy chairs of the tea hall, the faded couples greet one another with the gentle gossiping of tea-time in Bournemouth.

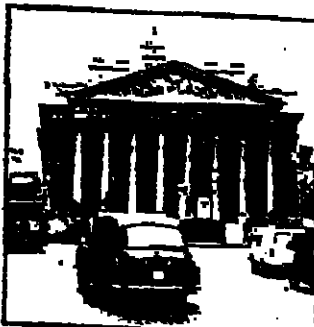
At night, with the sound of the sea crashing onto the wall beneath the window there is no beach to speak of at Palm Beach, another of those wiled ironies there is a tremendous sense of both well-being and disquiet. The heavy food, the rich day, the cast of characters have taken their toll. And there, tucked away in the local paper, is the final touch. "Videotape your will. Now you can take it with you."

BABY By Michael Heath

SAT LEAST WE SAVE ON HEATING BILLS WHENEVER HE RUNS A TEMPERATURE



They may not look like urban guerrillas but that's the way they're going to play it



NOTEBOOK

Edited by
Hamish McRae

SPECULATORS beware. The Bundesbank with much moral and some financial support from the Bank of England and the Banque de France is itching to mount another bear squeeze when it feels it has the opportunity.

The evident divergence of opinion on the two sides of the Atlantic about the effectiveness of intervention is becoming a little clearer. In Europe the central banks feel that they have learnt some useful lessons over the last few days, while in the US the scepticism remains.

The European view, first which in any case matters more: the experience of the last few days, it is felt, demonstrates absolutely that there is no point in trying to resist strong upward market pressure on the dollar. Even concerted intervention of the \$125 billion level, last Friday, was quite ineffective in the face of the markets. That sort of exercise will not be repeated.

On the other hand, the central banks have been very impressed by the ability to frighten the market. The Wednesday concerted intervention of \$15 billion gave them a measure of self-confidence that they had hitherto lacked. They are itching to have another crack when they think it would be credible.

We therefore expect a further intervention from the European banks, acting in concert whenever they feel that they can be effective. In a curious way all the Europeans are now behaving like a proper currency bloc. Though Britain does not subscribe to the exchange rate fixing element of the European Monetary System she is no longer just a pavilion member. In the place where it matters — in the foreign exchange field — she is a player. She has de facto membership of the ERM, exchanging a formal obligation for that.

The US Treasury is said to be holding to its view that intervention to stabilise the dollar is only useful on a limited basis despite the case made last week for more forceful action by both the federal reserve chairman Mr Paul Volcker and the treasury secretary Mr James Baker.

A senior US monetary official was quoted as saying yesterday that while the US had agreed to a "good faith" effort to stabilise the currency at the January Group of Five finance ministers meeting in Washington this could not change the fundamentals.

Testifying on Capitol Hill

making its British customers pay for its bad foreign loans. But as an accident of economic cycles, that is precisely what is happening. The UK business is doing so splendidly that a huge increase in bad debt charges on international loans has hardly made a dent in the profits.

First, the UK business: this is being managed very well, tariff increases have been kept to a minimum, and a 2,000 reduction in staff. Bad debts are lower and lending has expanded. This is against a better economic background which has seen only 75 receivables compared with 129 in 1983. The tax charge has 56 per cent of profits is higher than the City expected, even after the fearsome cost to the back of the Chancellor's budget in the rules governing the leasing business.

The higher tax charge has left retained earnings £120 million down at £202 million after a 6.3 per cent dividend increase. The capital backing, at 4.5 per cent of total lending, has also been left looking a bit weaker than the

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Fed-up Fleet

FLEET's decision to call off potential merger talks with Aitken Hume clears the decks for an eventual takeover bid from United Newspapers. Further, it gives United's chairman, Mr David Stevens, time to digest his recent takeover in preparation for this, his big strike, perhaps with a partner to carve up the spoils.

That, at least, would be the conventional City view of yesterday's announcement (see below). It has a great deal to commend it. But the

fact remains that there is a sizeable credibility gap to all this speculation. The gap concerns how United can fund the deal, whether the mixture of credit and new shares it would have to drum up can be found.

"It just ain't big enough, and Fleet isn't breakable up," growls the Fleet camp, which is sounding rather fed up with it all. Perhaps the only sensible thing to say at this stage is that too much importance is probably being placed on the abortive talks. Their existence was leaked, at a very early stage, by a rival Fleet Street camp.

In fact, the deal was never really on. The Fleet management, with its firm objective of not paying too much for anything, was bound to look very closely at the claims of such a young, however growth-oriented, company.

The unrespected question is whether Fleet has the nerve to diversify whether its leading shareholders will allow it freedom to manoeuvre by issuing new shares; or whether it is stuck with having to pay cash for any moves it might make.

Inmarsat awards plum £380 million contract

Bae wins satellite order

By Michael Smith, Industrial Editor

British Aerospace has captured a prized £380 million contract to build up to nine new satellites for the 43-nation international shipping communications agency, Inmarsat.

The highly prestigious Inmarsat order is still subject to final detailed negotiations, but is expected to be placed early next month after two years of deliberation.

Bae will take the leading role in a consortium which includes satellite specialists, Hughes Aircraft of America and Matra of France, and the contract was won in the face of stiff competition from a group headed by GEC's off-

shoot, Marconi, and including Ford Aerospace of the US and Aerospatiale of France.

British Aerospace will have a 34 per cent stake in the construction workload, building the satellite structure and providing the propulsion.

The contract, when formally signed, will undoubtedly raise Bae's reputation as a significant satellite manufacturer and is expected to provide continuation of work and a few more jobs at the firm's plant at Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

Hughes Aircraft will take a 49 per cent share of the work, and Matra a further 12 per cent, with the remaining share spread among smaller aero-

space firms in Germany, the Netherlands and Italy.

Initially, Inmarsat is purchasing three communications satellites at a cost of around £150 million and hopes to have the first in orbit by 1988. But the contract also includes an option to buy a further six satellites, bringing the total value of the order to well over £380 million.

Each of the new satellites has treble the capacity of Inmarsat's existing communications satellites, and the £380 million investment will provide the organisation with substantial capacity to expand its operations.

Inmarsat currently provides high-quality telephone links,

telex, facsimile and data transmission and various data broadcasting services to a fleet of more than over 3,200 international vessels. Demand for its services is rocketing at a rate of 60 per cent a year.

It is hoped that the additional new satellite capacity will enable Inmarsat to provide telephone links on board before the end of the year, well ahead of what the City expected. But this was after record bad debt provisions of £351 million, £87 million up on the year before, because of an unexpected deepening of the foreign debt front. NatWest is concerned about new debt problems over the next decade.

The bank also revealed that it set aside about £100 million from its profits against bad and doubtful debts owed by foreign governments, after a reassessment of the long-term prospects of debtor countries such as Brazil.

This is in sharp contrast to the recent air of optimism about the bank, which the City view was that NatWest is making hefty provisions because it can now afford to do so. The power-house behind the overall rise in pre-tax profits was a 57 per cent increase in the profits of the UK domestic banking business to £405 million, offsetting a fall in international profits. The bank made £60 million from house mortgages alone, up from £22 million, and says it has another £1 billion to lend this year, on top of the near £3 billion already lent.

Bad debt provisions against domestic lending at NatWest began to fall, as specific provisions against known international bad debts shot up from £80 million to £137 million. The bank also raised its general provisions for domestic and international loans-money cautiously set aside for problems which have yet to emerge from £86 million to £110 million. NatWest's international chief, Mr Ron Bennie said that the £100 million "sovereign risk" provisions included both general and specific charges.

Mr Bennie reflected that the extra charges reflected a marked deterioration in the foreign loans. He said: "Most of our exposure related to sovereign risk is in the public sector. But I don't think any of us can exclude from our minds that many of the agreements with these countries are for a very long period."

While debt problems had undoubtedly worsened since 1982, Mr Bennie suggested that the picture was different looking 10 years ahead. Brazil, for example, had created an enormous trade surplus with the US in spite of much colder temperatures than in the first quarter of 1984. But power station purchases in the UK were enough to increase European demand by 3 per cent during the period.

The IEA says that Opec broke through its 16 million barrels a day ceiling by producing 16.3 mbd of crude in February.

NatWest beats City forecasts

By Peter Rodgers, City Editor

NATWEST raised its profits 30 per cent to £671 million before tax last year, well ahead of what the City expected. But this was after record bad debt provisions of £351 million, £87 million up on the year before, because of an unexpected deepening of the foreign debt front. NatWest is concerned about new debt problems over the next decade.

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SE Council agrees on rules for new members

By Margaret Pagano, City Correspondent

The Stock Exchange Council yesterday finally agreed in principle to recommend to its members new membership rules which propose a "fixed" method of calculating how many shares new and existing firms should hold in the market.

After several weeks of debate the 42 strong council decided that new firms will have to own 100 shares in the Stock Exchange as a condition of entry for membership. Existing firms will have to own 50 shares. The system is based on one of corporate membership through share allocations to personal members who will have to own 100 shares. The full details will be disclosed in the Stock Exchange's White Paper which is expected on March 18, or shortly after.

With 4,500 Stock Exchange members this will create a market of some 20,000 firms. The council has also decided that the fixed option is superior, and not so complex.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Exchange, said yesterday that he also nearly finished its review of issues from liquidity, agency arrangements, regulations governing potential conflicts of interest and the compensation fund.

An extraordinary general meeting has been called to follow the annual meeting on Tuesday June 4. The Stock Exchange requires a 75 per cent majority vote to pass any new proposals.

terday to this proposal was that smaller firms will be disappointed by the large number of floating shares which may depress the price since there are more at the moment, 100 new firms who want to come in.

A maximum "top" price of £2,000 has been put on any new shares which may be created by the market. These will not carry proprietary rights. It is not clear whether new corporate members, such as Merrill Lynch, will have to pay any other entry fee other than buying the shares from existing members.

Over the last few weeks the council has agonised over what the best and fairest system is for both newcomers and the smaller, existing firms. At first it appeared that the "formula" method of calculating shares was superior to some set of criteria, such as size, turnover, would be the most effective. But, after a great deal of research and fine-tuning by Mr George Nissen and his constitutional committee, the council narrowly decided that the fixed option is superior, and not so complex.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Hawker contract

HAWKER Siddeley has won a £50 million power contract from Indonesia, the first in a large national programme designed to bring electricity to rural parts of the country. The deal includes £12 million of government aid, which will be provided by Britain towards the £36.5 million cost of equipment being shipped from the UK where it is being manufactured. This represents a 32 per cent subsidy.

FARM land prices have begun to recover from the depressed level to which they fell after the imposition of milk quotas last year. Latest figures from the Ministry of Agriculture show an average price by the end of January this year of £4,433 a hectare. Prices reached a record peak of £4,935 a hectare last year, before the impact of milk quotas had been felt, but fell to an average of £4,206 a hectare by September.

SHARES in the group which owns British Air Ferries, the small airline operating Viscount turbo-prop aircraft, are likely to be floated on the Unlisted Securities Market early next year.

THE £5.5 million offer for sale of shares in the Group, which joins the Unlisted Securities Market on Monday, was oversubscribed 20 times. The shares will be allocated by ballot.

CONSOLIDATED Gold Fields, the mining and construction materials group, is planning up to £200 million of disposals of non-peripheral interests in the next 18 months. Figures, page 23.

SHELL UK Oil is expected to announce today the axing of up to 500 jobs at its Stanlow refinery near Ellesmere Port, Cheshire. A company spokesman last night said he could "not deny or confirm" reports that 500 of the refinery's 3,500 employees are to go. But he admitted that for a year management have been reviewing the Stanlow operation because of "over capacity."

FIRST Venture Capital Corporation has made a bid for Prior Harwin Securities, the over-the-counter market. First Venture was one of Prior's protégés. It has called an extraordinary shareholders meeting for April 30.

ANY extension of VAT to cover newspapers, books and periodicals in the forthcoming Budget will be bad for the printing industry, damaging to the high standards of British education and disastrous for those of us who wish to see the development of a genuinely pluralist press in this country," the TUC general secretary, Mr Norman Willis, has told the Government.

Fleet calls off link with Aitken Hume

By Maggie Brown

Fleet Holdings, parent of Express Newspapers, has called off discussions on a "mutually beneficial association" with the Aitken Hume financial services group.

Fleet said last night, "It has not proved possible at present to find a basis of association acceptable to both parties and, accordingly, the discussions have been discontinued."

The Fleet statement, which does not close the door on future talks, continues, "There was press speculation that these discussions, which could have led to a bid by Fleet for Aitken Hume, were part of a policy to thwart a possible bid for Fleet. This was not so."

Neither Mr David Stevens, chairman of United Newspapers, nor deputy chairman, Mr Gordon Lumsden, were available for comment yesterday. UN holds 20.09 per cent of Fleet, and was opposed to the move.

At no time during the three weeks of tentative talks with Aitken Hume did Fleet sound out its shareholders for its views.

The suspicion was that Fleet, by making a £70 million bid would water down United's policy of careful growth by acquisition outside its current areas. The Aitken Hume talks, however abortive, show that it is casting its net wider than as yet, to no apparent effect.

Aitken Hume shares fell 7p to 166p on the news. Chairman Mr Tim Aitken has maintained that his young financial group have a market worth of around £50 million.

Sturge's merchant bank, Kleinwort Benson, and stock-

Acorn debts top £47m

By Maggie Brown

The Acorn computer company rescued by Olivetti two weeks ago owed its bankers and suppliers £47.7 million by the end of a disastrous 1984 trading year, according to the shareholders' circular issued yesterday, giving details of the reconstruction.

The company's financial position, worse than anticipated, deteriorated dramatically between July 1, when its last accounts were published, and December 30. During the six months its net assets were nearly halved, from £27 million to £17.3 million, and trade creditors, who were putting "mounting pressure on the company," by December, jumped to £31.1 million from £25.4 million.

Although the Christmas period is supposedly the most buoyant for the home computer industry, bank loans jumped to £11.1 million from

The document, prepared by Acorn's new financial advisers, Close Brothers, shows the impact of the £12.129 million "bad debt" issue. The cash reduces bank debts to £24.4 million, and restores net assets to £17.3 million.

It also says that it had reached agreements with major trade creditors, Race Electronics, BSR Wong's Electronics and A. S. Electronics, to repay debts by instalments by February and March of 1985.

It says that Acorn's relationship with the BBC, giving it rights to promote and sell its micro-computer under the BBC's name until 1988 in return for a royalty, stands, and that Olivetti's option to raise its stake to 50.1 per cent, from its proposed 49.3 per cent holding through the rescue deal, does not give rise to any early termination rights.

Dealings in Acorn shares are due to recommence today.

Mr Chris Curry, Acorn's co-founder

Sterling weakens against the dollar

Sterling weakened against the dollar, in common with most other currencies, as foreign exchange dealers yesterday grew more confident that they were not about to witness a new round of monetary tightening in London, knocking hopes of a budget base rate cut and making a mortgage rate rise this month look more likely.

Sterling sagged to \$1.0563 at one point, and closed at \$1.0594, more than a cent down on the night before. But it was firm against European currencies, falling nearly 1.5 pence against the German mark to DM 3.6238, and the average value on the Bank of England's sterling index dropped only 0.1 to 70.5.

Neither of the major oil prices had much effect on sterling, which continues to do well against Continental currencies because of high British interest rates. "This has left the

focus of attention on the mark, which lost 5.6 pence against the dollar to DM 3.4280, putting it back near the levels before the concerted intervention began a week ago.

Despite continuing American reluctance to intervene heavily in the Italian prime minister, Mr Benito Craxi yesterday urged the US to join in concerted intervention with European central banks to bring the US currency's value down.

High interest rates are causing "serious problems" to half of British companies, a survey from the Institute of Directors showed yesterday. More companies are losing rather than gaining from the fall in the pound, said the results of the institute's latest survey of 209 top directors. But while sterling and interest rates are presenting problems, 96 per cent said they had not faced significant difficulties because of the miners' strike.

Miners and oil

The International Energy Agency confirmed speculation yesterday that the UK miners' strike played a crucial role in preventing a renewed slide in oil prices this winter.

Heavy purchases of fuel oil to feed the power stations sharply just when consumption of oil began to fall sharply in the United States and the Far East during January, and February.

According to the latest IEA oil market report published yesterday, European demand for crude, would have fallen by 1 per cent during the first half of this year in spite of much colder temperatures than in the first quarter of 1984. But power station purchases in the UK were enough to increase European demand by 3 per cent during the period.

The IEA says that Opec broke through its 16 million barrels a day ceiling by producing 16.3 mbd of crude in February.

Sturge plans Stock Exchange listing

By Mary Brazier

One of the largest underwriting groups at Lloyd's, writing groups at Lloyd's Sturge is finalising plans for a Stock Exchange listing this summer. If successful, Sturge will become the first Lloyd's agency to gain public quote.

The group arranged a share placing last year which left the directors with a controlling stake of 50.8 per cent, but share in institutional and private investors who now hold the shares are currently traded on a matched bargain basis. The chairman, David Coleridge, said yesterday he felt it was time to widen their marketability. The group would have a market value of around £50 million.

Sturge's merchant bank, Kleinwort Benson, and stock-

Fibre-optic expansion

British Telecom yesterday announced the start of work on another 14,000 miles of fibre-optic cabling on the nation's phone network.

This £9 billion programme is to connect local exchanges, and most of the links will be less than 10 miles long. Until recently its use of the laser-light signals of optical fibres to replace electric copper cable was most cost effective over the longer distances of the inter-city network.

Now economies of scale are working for the local network as well. Each of the cables in the new programme will be capable of carrying 3,840 phone calls simultaneously through 16 hair-thin fibres.

But there is still a long road ahead. The national inter-city network involves 28,500 miles of cable and only 2,122 miles of fibre-optic today.

Harrisons increases Pauls bid to £116m

By James Kirkham

Pauls, the UK feed miller and maltster, faced a renewed attack yesterday when Harrisons & Crossfield increased its takeover bid to £116 million.

Unless a third party intervenes the battle could reach a conclusion because Harrisons' chairman, Mr Tom Prentice, yesterday declared the improved bid terms final.

Pauls' shares immediately rose 29p to 364p to come in line with the value placed on them by Harrisons' new offer of 0.82 of its own shares for every Pauls share. Harrisons' opening bid launched last month offered 0.75 of a share and valued Pauls at £107 million.

The board of Pauls, which has so far resisted the offer, advised shareholders to take no action. Harrisons & Crossfield has been looking for

agricultural businesses in the Northern Hemisphere since disposing of control of Malaysian and other Far Eastern plantation businesses for £182 million.

Pauls, which was founded in Ipswich, has maintained its independence for nearly 200 years. But it is presently vulnerable to takeover because its recent restructuring programme is not yet complete and profits have been unimpressive for several years.

As soon as the new terms were announced Harrisons went into the stock market and grabbed nearly 20 per cent of Pauls' shares at a price of 36p.

Harrisons' total stake now stands at 21 per cent. The spokesman for the plantations and chemicals group predicted last night that victory was in its sights.

UK firms fight IBM

A few small British micro-computer firms have got together, with government backing, to fight what they call the "Armageddon issue" of IBM's dominance of their industry.

Mr David Broad, director general of the British Microcomputer Manufacturers' Group, said yesterday that if IBM managed to win the majority of the microcomputer market, as it has done for many years worldwide in bigger computers, then the future for the British industry would be "very bleak indeed."

Mr Broad was announcing a six-phase programme produced by the BMMG which should, if further backed by industry and the Government, provide within 18 months a common standard for microcomputers to talk to each other over local area networks independent of IBM's technology.

JOHNSTONE'S PAINTS

Final Results

The Group Results for the 52 weeks ended 1st December, 1984 are shown below with comparable figures for the 53 weeks ended 3rd December, 1983.

	52 weeks to 1/12/84 £'000	53 weeks to 3/12/83 £'000
Turnover	10,469	10,214
Profit before taxation	1,520	1,627
Earnings Per Share	11.26p	13.33p
Dividend Per Share	4.00p	4.00p

"Johnstone's Paints PLC is pleased to take advantage of any upturn in the economy of the country."

James Johnston, Chairman.

Head Office & Factory: Stonebridge, Huddersfield, England.

Distributors: Manchester, 1035 6th St.

Depots: Birmingham, Bolton, Bristol, Cardiff, Exeter, Glasgow, Harrogate, London, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Preston, Sheffield.

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Wednesday March 6 1985

Margareta Pagano looks at the man who will set up and run the new securities board

Sir Ken goes fishing for City sharks

"PLAYING it safe" was the instant verdict yesterday on the appointment of Sir Kenneth Berrill to one of the most important jobs to be created in the City for decades. "Ken who?" asked cynics in the investment community.

Sharks may not feel an immediate need to see London's financial markets, yet over the months to come they may find the Square Mile is not such a comfortable feeding ground after all.

From the viewpoint of the City and the authorities, Sir Kenneth is a near perfect choice, albeit a last-minute one. Although he does not completely fit the bill of "superman" that the job of setting up and running the Securities and Investment Board so clearly needs, he certainly comes close.

In his 64 years Sir Kenneth has straddled the worlds both of regulation and self-regulation. He is a Whitehall man from his stint as director of the government think-tank, the Central

Policy Review Staff, and an extremely astute City practitioner from his present post as chairman of Vickers de Costa, one of the most reputable stockbroking firms.

It is a fact not without irony that Sir Kenneth, chairman of Vickers for only five years after a long academic and government career, pulled off one of the first and "fanciest" deals seen in the present City revolution. Vickers sold out to the US Citibank, one of the world's largest banks, in a £20 million package just months after the Government dropped the restrictive practices case against the Stock Exchange which let the present changes unfold.

The current thinking is that Sir Kenneth will probably make rather a better job of SIB, the City's watchdog, than he did at the think-tank where he arrived in 1974 and ruled until 1980. A Cambridge economist, he had been chairman of the University Grants Committee, head of the government economic service and chief economic

adviser to the Treasury in 1973.

Conventional wisdom has it that Sir Kenneth's days at the think-tank were a disaster, that he turned an "exciting, pirate ship" brimming with innovative ideas under Lord Rothschild into just another part of the Whitehall machine. But although Sir Kenneth would admit that it did become incorporated into the machinery of government, he would also say that being a "buccaneer or a boat rocker" is not one of his qualities, and that such qualities would not be useful to a government anyway.

This side of his deceptively easy going character came through clearly yesterday on his appointment, when he rejected the notion that the chairman of the SIB should in any sense be a policeman. He believes that the broader interests of the City, and therefore investors, are served by competition, not stifling protection.

There is the by-now famous description by another Whitehall colleague who

called him a "Room at the Top man, a ladder man who wouldn't notice if your neck was on the rung." Sir Kenneth is said to have replied to this that he thought the comment went just a little too far.

Observers will remember his report "Review of Overseas Representation" which aroused a fury to match, if not beat, anything which came out of Lord Rothschild's ship.

Sir Kenneth, the son of a City of London clerk, went to the London School of Economics and was evacuated with the LSE to its wartime nest in Cambridge. There he became a close friend of Lord Kahn and has admitted that he is a Keynesian. "Coming from King's College is a bit difficult to be anything else," he has been reported as saying.

He went on to become a lecturer in economic history and bursar of St Catherine's College and later a fellow and first bursar of King's. It was in the college corridors that he first came into con-

tact with Vickers de Costa when he started playing the stock market for St Catherine's. It was Lord Kahn, then at King's, who suggested that he try Vickers.

Through these first contacts, Sir Kenneth developed a close relationship with the firm and soon got involved in running some of Vickers' investment trusts. He was a director of investing in Success Investment Trust and chairman of General Funds Investment Trust between 1972 and 1973. While still at Whitehall he was obliged to take his Stock Exchange exams in 1981. He passed.

Over the next two months Sir Kenneth will have to give up all his financial interests in the City before he can begin the arduous work ahead. For the moment, he will remain on the Lloyd's of London Council — where he has picked up a lot of regulatory experience — but he has made it clear he will leave if any conflict arises.

He is taking on the job without knowing the salary

— although money is obviously not a problem since the City is footing the bill — for a body that does not yet exist, and without a job description or contract. It is just three weeks since he accepted, so he is naturally reluctant to make bold statements about the degree of regulation he believes will be necessary to make SIB effective. "It's a bit like a salad cookie where you have to find the right balance," he said yesterday. "I see it as a mixture of practice and policy and we can only see how much as the board emerges."

Although he dismisses the "policeman" tag he will, if he is to lead the market through the present revolution, have to be both aggressive and prepared to go out on a limb.

With the backing of his deputy, Mr Martin Jacob, who let it be known he was not prepared to take on the chairmanship, he will need to build a strong, dynamic team of practitioners and lay members.



Sir Kenneth—"I'm no policeman"

Ian Anderson reports on Nasa's advanced flight simulators

Faking it to make it safer

Called the Man-Vehicle Systems Research Facility, it became fully operational in January.

Most other simulators are used to train flight crews and to develop and test aircraft. This is the first one to be devoted entirely to the study of human factors in commercial aviation.

Its research is expected to influence future design and function of aviation equipment, especially within the cockpit. Recommendations will be made to the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) and to airlines about flight procedures.

The Nasa simulator has four distinct but interrelated components: air traffic control, two cockpits housed in separate cabins, and a visual display system that gives the illusion of taxing, taking off, flying and landing. During experiments, the air traffic control system will be staffed by trained controllers from local airports, including San Francisco International. They will maintain a conversation with the pilots exactly as they would at a normal airport.

The pilots who volunteer for the research will be mostly air crews who reside in the San Francisco Bay area. It is considered an

ideal location because many of the crews are involved in long haul flights across the US and overseas to Europe and Asia.

The crews sit in one of two cockpits. Each cockpit is located within a hexagonally-shaped cabin mounted on hydraulic supports, about 20 metres apart. One cockpit is an exact replica of a Boeing 727 Series 200, a popular passenger aircraft which is likely to be in service for another 20 years. The other cockpit is from a plane of the future. It has been designed by engineers from Lockheed-Georgia and Nasa to represent the typical control system of passenger planes of 1995. It is called LV-1995.

Gone is the myriad instrumentation, switches and panels that confront the 727 pilot. In their place is a control panel that looks much like a desktop with touch sensitive screens. The pilot will have to keep an eye on only one screen which will flash up important messages.

The cumbersome steering wheel and column located immediately in front of the pilot have given way to small handles much like a joystick located immediately to the left of the pilot and to the right of the co-pilot.

The new system is called sidestair control.

The researchers want to know how a pilot of the future will react to such a system. Nasa says that there is a danger that the system will become too automated, thereby relegating the pilot to a minor and passive role.

The cockpits can be operated independently, or both planes in effect can be flown in the same air space so that comparative research can be undertaken. Sound can be added to mimic weather conditions, engine noise, landing gear extension, or setting down on runways. The feeling of turbulence can be created in the 727 simulator by using the hydraulic system to rock the cabin—a similar sensation is planned for the advanced cabin.

But the stunning feature is the visual simulation. Dusk or night-time airport scenes have been developed so far for 12 US, one Dutch, and three British airports. The work has been done by the British company, Link Miles of Worthing.

It is possible to fly between these airports. For example, the entire trip from San Francisco to Denver can be recreated. A pilot looks out of his window and "sees" the runway of San Francisco. Up to 36 other planes—stationary, taking off, or landing—are visible. He taxis, takes off and sees features around the city such as the radio antennae on the San Bruno mountains or the traffic crossing the Bay Bridge. Light planes pass by far below. Visual scenes en route are depicted. He lands in the "mile-high city" of Denver, again with easily recognisable features

Problem pits could pay off if they're given to the miners



ECONOMICS AGENDA

William Kingston

WITH THE miners' strike finally over, there is a need for highly imaginative initiatives to heal the wounds. One of these could be for the NCB to offer to hand over all its less productive pits, without reservation, to the miners who work in them.

An essential component of such a policy would be to set up a new unit within the NCB, charged with the task of doing everything possible, short of managing and subsidising such pits, to keep the technical and marketing resources of the NCB at their disposal.

A useful model for such a relationship is the Japanese Keiretsu, which is a key element in their business success. Upstream of the giant firms whose products are known world-wide, are thousands of small component-supplying firms which obtain from the giants, not just orders, but finance,

technical consultancy, and support of all kinds as markets change. This active paternalism leaves the small firms' autonomy intact, however, and the actual failure rates of Japanese businesses are no lower than in the West.

Yet there is a fundamental difference, typified by the British motor industry. In building up his great business, William Morris deliberately magnified the importance of sub-contracting, so that the burden of cyclical downturns would be transferred as far as possible to his component suppliers. Keiretsu has shown itself to be vastly more productive as well as more humane.

So, just as Honda takes the output of the 20,000 small component suppliers with which it has this type of special relationship, the NCB would agree to buy any coal which the "problem" pits could produce. Not at any price, nor yet at a price which could only be met by one of the most efficient Nottinghamshire pits; but at one which would take account of all the factors which have been so often rehearsed during the strike, such as keeping future options open.

Such a price should not cause the NCB any difficulty, in view of the concessions it has already offered in negotiations. Obviously the price would be the same for all pits that are "privatised", since otherwise the board would be dragged back to where it could be blamed for individual pit closures.

Such a programme would be beneficial in three main ways. Firstly, some pits that would have to be closed as "uneconomic" when run by the NCB, would turn out to be viable. This would not only be because of relief

from the heavy overheads of centralised administration, or from debt charges which would anyway have to be written off with closure.

Most concisely, the psychic energy of pit-centred communities would be turned from disaffection to constructive development. The single ingredient common to all economic miracles, of firms or of nations, is hope. Nothing has ever been remotely as successful as personal ownership in unlocking the springs of energy and channelling them into economic activity. Si vis monumentum, look at how well the National Freight Corporation has done since it became owned by those who work in it.

In spite of all efforts by both local miners and the NCB "Keiretsu" support unit, there will of course be a group of pits unable to produce coal at the "privatised" price, if wages remain at the levels to which nationalisation has accustomed miners. But this need not necessarily mean closure, since it may be possible for its new owners to keep a pit open by a self-imposed cut in wages.

This flexibility is simply not possible with national bargaining. And the more pressing is the choice between closure and lower wages, the more attractive is the third option available to miners — accepting the NCB's offer to move to one of its own "economic" pits.

The price of keeping a traditional pit-centred community in being would be identified, not least by the miners' wives. It could be envisaged that some would opt for staying put at lower wages, whereas others, presumably the younger families, would prefer to move

to higher wages and a better future.

Thirdly, without an end to the "union mentality," there can be no hope of attracting other industries to the coalfields. The North-West/South-East prosperity contrast is clearly correlated with less unionisation in the South-East, just as the growth of employment in the US has been concentrated in the "right to work" states.

What same industrialist would put a plant in any of the areas which have become notorious for pit violence since March, if he has any alternative site at all?

In the extreme case, where closure cannot be avoided, there is a crucial difference, even compared to the independent assessment that is envisaged in the terms which the NCB has offered. Any decision to close would not be imposed from above, by a distant management which can be claimed to have no care for the local consequences.

It would be taken by the miners/owners themselves, in the local community, with full consideration of all the monetary, psychic and social factors involved. Any breathing space afforded by miner-ownership could also, of course, allow the community to develop alternative lines of business.

This suggestion can no doubt be improved upon by those inside the industry. There could certainly be problems outsiders cannot appreciate. But without creative initiatives, the end to the strike could turn out to be no more than an armistice, with the NCB's bottom line the Versailles treaty of industrial relations.

William Kingston is lecturer in innovation at Trinity College, Dublin.

WHOSE earnings per share?

THE STORY SO FAR...

1974 + 66.3%

1975 + 34.8%

1976 + 77.4%

1977 + 20.0%

1978 + 22.7%

1979 + 24.7%

1980 + 29.7%

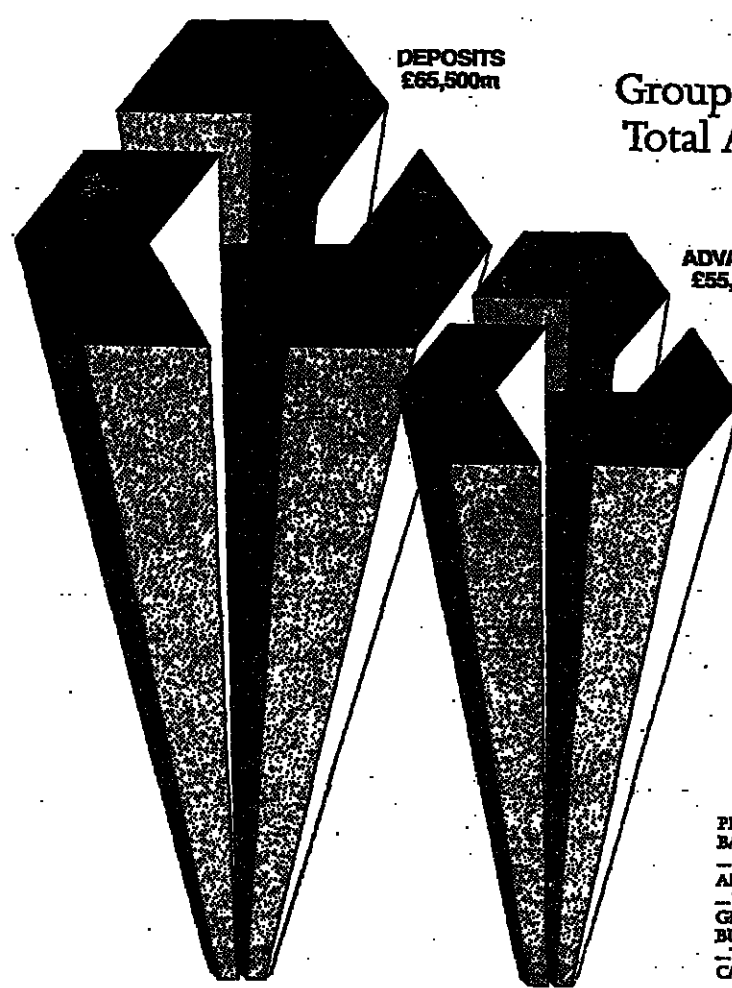
1981 + 21.4%

1982 + 20.1%

1983 + 23.0%

TO BE CONTINUED TOMORROW...

1984 Results from NatWest



DEPOSITS

£65,500m

Group Profits for 1984 £671 million

Total Assets exceed £71,000 million

10 million Customers

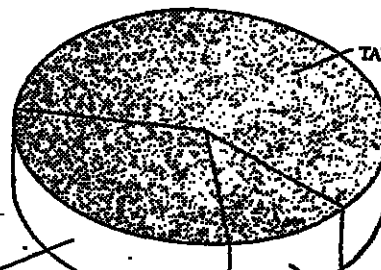
100,000 Shareholders

90,000 Staff worldwide

ADVANCES

£55,400m

PRE-TAX PROFITS £671m




FLOUGHED BACK INTO THE BUSINESS — TO IMPROVE OUR SERVICE TO ALL OUR GROUP CUSTOMERS — TO HELP FINANCE THE GROWTH OF OUR WORLDWIDE BUSINESS — TO HELP REFINISH OUR CAPITAL RESOURCES

DIVIDEND TO ORDINARY SHAREHOLDERS

NatWest
The Action Bank

The Report and Accounts will be available on April 9th 1985 from the Secretary, National Westminster Bank PLC, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP

Profit figures lift equities but gilts drift



Star turn in a basically firm
woods group, of course, was
Unilever, surging 8p to 1240p
on their results. Shock of the
day came from Turriff Con-
DM 3.62; FT 11.06. Gold: £288
Account: February 25 to March
8. FT All Share Index up 4.22
at 614.79. Sterling Index 70.0
(1975=100). RPI 359.8 (Janu-
ary) up 5 per cent on year.

Despite the effect of the dollar, investors on the stock exchange had no difficulty unravelling the message in yesterday's figures which showed full-year operating profits translated into sterling up almost 16 per cent to £4.6 million on sales about 20 per cent ahead, at £29.2 million.

SHARES of Turriff Corporation plunged 48p to 395p yesterday after the board

warned that it was confident about long-term prospects and profit in 1985, its profit for 1984 would be roughly halved to £1 million. Writing to shareholders about the pur-

chase of a 49 per cent stake in Engineering Support Services, the board says that Turriff's problems for the year, which ended in October, stemmed from difficulties, delays and

Provident

tops £19 m

Although profits would have been up to \$2 million higher

Provident Finance raised its pre-tax profit for 1984 from £17.6 million to £19.4 million—another record.

consumer credit, banking, insurance and estate agency, has made "a good start to 1985, although high interest rates are unwelcome." The use of interest-swap arrangements has

The underlying quality of the debts in the weekly credit business has not deteriorated as was feared in 1982, so the

pecial charge of £1.5 million
made then has been brought
back.

Edited by

Tony May

[illegible]

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David Lacey on the aftermath of the Stamford Bridge riot

FA hands are tied over Chelsea

SOCCER

LEAVING Stamford Bridge on Monday night was a more unquieting experience than the departure from Windsor Park, Belfast, five days earlier. Minutes after the INLA had exploded a bomb less than a quarter of a mile from the stadium.

In Belfast the situation was quickly under control, the RUC sealing off the affected streets and ushering away the crowd with a calm efficiency born of bitter experience. Crucially, they had the co-operation of football fans who only grudge was that they had seen Northern Ireland lose unluckily to England.

On Monday the police faced, not terrorism certainly but an enemy within of a particularly cussed, violent and unreasoning kind. Chelsea's Milk Cup defeat by Sunderland, who won the second leg of their semi-final 3-2 to reach Wembley for the first time in 12 years on a 3-2 aggregate, was accompanied by the sort of controlled trouble which will again test the willingness of the Football Association to act according to their own rules.

Stamford Bridge emptied to the yip-yip of police vans charging from one part of London SW6 to another in pursuit of the hooligans. The forecourt of at least one entrance to Stamford Bridge was speckled with blood. Fortunately were those who had cars to drive home. The Underground was ground under and when West Ham fans returning from Wimbledon encountered disappointed Chelsea supporters on the District Line it was not exactly a meeting of minds.

The FA have to await the report of the referee, Alan Gunn, before deciding what action to take but it is obvious that Chelsea are facing another inquiry by the disciplinary committee. For once there will be no shortage of reliable, independent witnesses.

Bert Millichip, the chairman of the FA, Ted Croker, the secretary, and Jack Dunnett, the president of the Football League, each had a grandstand view of Monday's sad chain of events. They could hardly have missed seeing a Chelsea steward felled by a missile as he went to retrieve a seat torn

up and hurled over the fence in front of the East Stand. After Clive Walker, a Chelsea player for 11 years before moving to Roker Park last summer, had scored the second of his two goals for Sunderland, they then witnessed a pitch invasion from the Shed which was headed off by mounted police before it could reach the visitors' enclosure.

This was followed by pieces of wood thrown at a linesman, fencing stanchions aimed at police horses like javelins, and an attempted assault on Walker by a young fan. Sunderland scored their third goal amid scenes of black comedy, with half-a-dozen police pursuing another lone fan across the pitch as they attacked and a constable flexing his knees in the penalty area when Walker's centre reached the head of West.

Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, defender of the faithful and scourge of the newspapers who, in his opinion, tar all fans with the same brush, was moved to describe the troublemakers as "scum" who needed to be driven back to the terraces from the seating areas

so that they could be more easily controlled. This is an interesting reversal of prevailing theories concerning hooliganism, which suggest precisely the opposite. The FA have the power to close Stamford Bridge, Rule 31 (a), paragraph two, states: "Clubs on whose grounds a match is played shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent supporters and spectators from encroaching on the pitch and/or throwing missiles on to the pitch and/or threatening match officials and other officials or players before, during or after matches."

So clearly there is a prima facie case against Chelsea several times over. However, the club will feel entitled to argue that the pitch was fenced off — a measure taken to prevent mass invasion — and a heavy police presence they did take all reasonable precautions to stop trouble. They can also point out that, give or take the odd policeman patrolling the penalty area, the actual intrusions to the pitch were kept to a minimum.

Croker offered a hint of what the outcome of an inquiry might be when he said in his opinion Chelsea had "taken considerable trouble to try to deter this sort of thing and it was unfortunately caused by a minority."

Just over three years ago, after Chelsea supporters had gone on the rampage at Derby, the FA tried to ban their supporters from away matches by making the games all-ticket. But the club challenged the decision legally and the ban was lifted three days before the case was due to be heard in the High Court.

Since then the FA have conducted a number of inquiries into crowd behaviour with Chelsea among the teams involved.

"Five years ago we were finding clubs guilty after similar troubles," said Croker, "but there's not much we can do now they are all following our guidelines. We have no power to take action against the supporters but we will be taking the closest interest in action taken by the courts."

At the beginning of the season one of the recommendations made by a body set up by the Department of the Environment to study soccer hooliganism was that "the FA should review and better

define its powers and procedures and the responsibilities of the clubs. If the powers prove to be inadequate the FA should consider taking enhanced powers." The chairman of the Football Association, Lord Hesketh, said in a statement last week: "The FA is not a law enforcement agency and it is not for us to decide what the courts should do."

Meanwhile developers hoping to build apartment blocks at Stamford Bridge have suffered another blow. Under the terms of their lease Chelsea cannot be thrown out of Stamford Bridge unless suitable alternative accommodation is found. Since exploration of the planet Jupiter is still a few years off, their security of tenure seems especially strong just now.

Real Madrid visit White Hart Lane in the UEFA Cup tonight with a large reputation but limited horizon. In the opening leg of their quarter-final Tottenham Hotspur face a team disillusioned at home and desperate to succeed in a European competition which would once have been the least of their ambitions.

With no hope of winning the Spanish championship, and an unkind draw against Athletic Bilbao in the Spanish Cup, Real are steeling themselves for an upheaval at the Bernabeu next month when a new president is elected to succeed the 73-year-old Luis de Carlos whose recent resignation takes effect from June.

Amancio Amaro, the Real coach, knows that he is unlikely to keep his job once the new man takes over. But Amancio is not the only one under pressure. As Uli Stielike, the West German World Cup player who has been with Real for eight years, pointed out yesterday: "The contracts of eight or nine players, including my own, are up in June when the new president comes in. We don't know what changes he will bring so we are all going to have to play well if we want to have a reasonable chance of staying with the club."

Amanico, who played for a much better Real Madrid side in the 60s, feels that the players have lost confidence and are just waiting for the Spanish season to finish. But he does not want to be remembered as the coach who failed to guide Real back into Europe for only the second time in three decades.

Real have won just one of their last 10 matches in Spain and have been beaten in each of their away UEFA Cup legs this season—2-0 by Innsbruck, 3-1 by Rijeka of Yugoslavia, and 3-0 by Anderlecht. However they have shown their best form in the home games, winning 5-0, 3-0 and routing Anderlecht, beaten by Spurs on penalties in last season's final, 6-1.

Falco is the striker most likely to win the game for Tottenham but the Spurs attack will not find it easy to create and take chances against Real's massed defence with the wily Stielike at its heart.

Robert Armstrong on the tasks facing Manchester United and Everton

Szabo's striking threat to United

Manchester United need to maintain a credible challenge in the UEFA Cup for the very good reason that they have little chance of winning the League Championship and they face strong opposition in their pursuit of the FA Cup. Ron Atkinson, the United manager, is also bound to feel that winning a trophy is the best guarantee that he will have a job at Old Trafford next season.

However, tonight's fourth round opponents, Videoton of Budapest, possess sufficient pedigree to make life difficult for an injury-hit United side on their first competitive visit to Britain. The Hungarian League leaders have already disposed of Dukla Prague,

Paris Saint-Germain, and the conquerors of Queen's Park Rangers, Partizan, who were crushed 5-0 in the first leg of the third round. The man who inflicted maximum torment on Partizan was the 28-year-old Hungarian striker, Jozsef Szabo, whose pace and excellent technique brought him 19 goals in 30 games last season. United's creaky defence could be in for a torrid evening.

Atkinson must have been severely disappointed yesterday when Bryan Robson was ruled out of the game after visiting a specialist. Remi Moses is also out with an injured calf.

Even so, United have the midfield drive in the shape of Strachan and Whiteside, allied to the striking power of Hughes and Stapleton, to establish the kind of lead they will need to survive the second leg in a fortnight's time. "I think it will be as hard a task as any British club has got in Europe since the war," said Atkinson yesterday.

Meanwhile, Fortuna Sittard of Holland will face an unchanged Everton side in the first leg of their Cup-Winners Cup quarter-final at Goodison Park. Howard Kendall has retained Terry Curran in the back despite his request for a transfer while the Dutch team include the former Ipswich

and Nottingham Forest player, Frans Thijssen, in their midfield. By all accounts Fortuna are involved in an ugly kicking match with Maastricht last weekend.

On the domestic front Ipswich have their centre back, Osman, available after suspension for the second leg of their Milk Cup semi-final at Norwich. Bobby Ferguson's buoyant side lead 1-0 but the manager has promised: "I am not going to play an extra defender because we must go looking to score at least one goal." Norwich will give a late all-12 seconds draw. The withdrawal of another Renauld rider yesterday leaves 85 men on the road to Nice.

Charles Burgess at St Trivier

Peiper's sour note

ing that the white jersey would be his for another day. Thus Oosterbosch finished second in the sprint to Marc Matiot of Renault and picked up five bonus seconds to take the white jersey of the third place. The Irishman Sean Kelly, Peiper was angry. Shimmering in the dampness, he wiped the grime from his face, peered off his cap, and declared: "I was tricked. I was played for nothing."

He glared in the man behind, eight seconds behind, meaning that without the Dutchman, Peiper would have held a one-second lead this morning. Kelly, seeking his fourth successive victory in the race to the Sun (now renamed the Race in the Rain), was sixth and is now 12th overall.

It is 35 seconds off the lead but, importantly, 13 seconds behind one of the favourites, Fignon, who is in third place. Kelly's inability to get up there for the final sprint must be a worry for him.

Stephen Roche, the Irish leader of La Redoute, Milner and all the other big-name riders finished in the waste-bunch. Roche is fourth overall, 25 seconds down on the leaders and three seconds behind Fignon. Peiper is second overall, 12 seconds down. The withdrawal of another Renauld rider yesterday leaves 85 men on the road to Nice.

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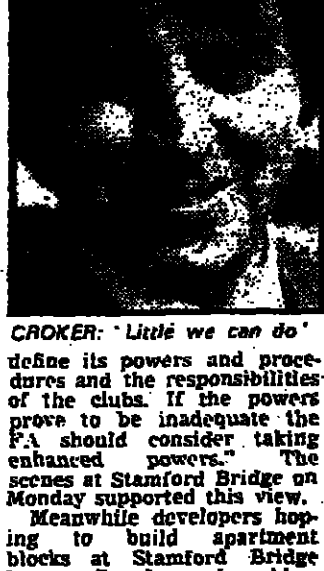
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CROKER: "Little we can do" define its powers and procedures and the responsibilities of the clubs. If the powers prove to be inadequate the FA should consider taking enhanced powers.

The British Amateur Athletic Board, supported by Nicholas Scott, the Minister of State for Northern Ireland, announced yesterday that they intend to go ahead and hold the UK Championships in April on May 25/26.

An event, which gets far less support than a British championship should do, is even less attractive when it is staged in Northern Ireland. Four years ago, when the championships were held there, the response to appeals by competitors on the British mainland to take part, made by Mary Peters, did not bring the competition to a true national level.

Yesterday Mr Scott and British officials were joined in a trial by the sponsors, HFC Trust, and Felina Whitbread, bronze medal winner in the Olympic javelin, who said she would be attempting to win her sixth successive UK title there in May.

However there are likely to be many taking the view of Todd Bennett, the world's fastest man indoors over 400 metres, who said after winning his European title in Athens at the weekend that he would not be going to Antrim.

While Mr Scott promised that the athletes would be protected, many competitors—and their parents—cannot really take much comfort from another of his remarks: "If INLA carries out its threats it would make enemies of the whole community." It is understandable that those whose views of Belfast and other parts of Northern Ireland are largely based on TV pictures and newspaper reports are reluctant to go there.

In fact life in almost all parts of the Province carries on normally, with sporting events of all kinds taking place in the same way as the rest of the UK. But the threat from the INLA that they would also sporting events in their targets, after a change in responsibility for evaluation close to Windsor Park after the Northern Ireland and England soccer match, may now prey on many minds.

The UK championships are far too early in the summer to have much significance, and that is why so many athletes decline to take part. Once the British Board and the AAU of America properly merged it was a disaster. It was a disaster in an attempt to raise some interest in the meeting, though not as a result of terrorist threats, the sponsors have raised the size of the training grants which go to the first three competitors in each event.

For those who achieve the qualifying standards that were necessary for competition in the Olympic Games there will be £500, £250, and £150 for the first three to finish, without the standard, the value drops by half for the winner and £150 and £100 for the runner-up. All the competitors will have their air fares and accommodation paid.

Mr Jones, a member of the British Board and one of the organisers of the Championships in Antrim said: "We have no plans to set up a fortress. We are not politicians. Just the athletic community." It was far more worried this time four years ago when we held the championships. The British Board were in hotels almost every week.

"You must remember that it was the time when the first hunger striker died in the Maze. The situation now is very different. It is not the same as it was then," he said.

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ing that the white jersey would be his for another day. Thus Oosterbosch finished second in the sprint to Marc Matiot of Renault and picked up five bonus seconds to take the white jersey of the third place. The Irishman Sean Kelly, Peiper was angry. Shimmering in the dampness, he wiped the grime from his face, peered off his cap, and declared: "I was tricked. I was played for nothing."

He glared in the man behind, eight seconds behind, meaning that without the Dutchman, Peiper would have held a one-second lead this morning. Kelly, seeking his fourth successive victory in the race to the Sun (now renamed the Race in the Rain), was sixth and is now 12th overall.

It is 35 seconds off the lead but, importantly, 13 seconds behind one of the favourites, Fignon, who is in third place. Kelly's inability to get up there for the final sprint must be a worry for him.

Stephen Roche, the Irish leader of La Redoute, Milner and all the other big-name riders finished in the waste-bunch. Roche is fourth overall, 25 seconds down on the leaders and three seconds behind Fignon. Peiper is second overall, 12 seconds down. The withdrawal of another Renauld rider yesterday leaves 85 men on the road to Nice.

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Board will defy bombing threats

The British Amateur Athletic Board, supported by Nicholas Scott, the Minister of State for Northern Ireland, announced yesterday that they intend to go ahead and hold the UK Championships in April on May 25/26.

An event, which gets far less support than a British championship should do, is even less attractive when it is staged in Northern Ireland. Four years ago, when the championships were held there, the response to appeals by competitors on the British mainland to take part, made by Mary Peters, did not bring the competition to a true national level.

Yesterday Mr Scott and British officials were joined in a trial by the sponsors, HFC Trust, and Felina Whitbread, bronze medal winner in the Olympic javelin, who said she would be attempting to win her sixth successive UK title there in May.

However there are likely to be many taking the view of Todd Bennett, the world's fastest man indoors over 400 metres, who said after winning his European title in Athens at the weekend that he would not be going to Antrim.

While Mr Scott promised that the athletes would be protected, many competitors—and their parents—cannot really take much comfort from another of his remarks: "If INLA carries out its threats it would make enemies of the whole community." It is understandable that those whose views of Belfast and other parts of Northern Ireland are largely based on TV pictures and newspaper reports are reluctant to go there.

In fact life in almost all parts of the Province carries on normally, with sporting events of all kinds taking place in the same way as the rest of the UK. But the threat from the INLA that they would also sporting events in their targets, after a change in responsibility for evaluation close to Windsor Park after the Northern Ireland and England soccer match, may now prey on many minds.

The UK championships are far too early in the summer to have much significance, and that is why so many athletes decline to take part. Once the British Board and the AAU of America properly merged it was a disaster. It was a disaster in an attempt to raise some interest in the meeting, though not as a result of terrorist threats, the sponsors have raised the size of the training grants which go to the first three competitors in each event.

For those who achieve the qualifying standards that were necessary for competition in the Olympic Games there will be £500, £250, and £150 for the first three to finish, without the standard, the value drops by half for the winner and £150 and £100 for the runner-up. All the competitors will have their air fares and accommodation paid.

Mr Jones, a member of the British Board and one of the organisers of the Championships in Antrim said: "We have no plans to set up a fortress. We are not politicians. Just the athletic community." It was far more worried this time four years ago when we held the championships. The British Board were in hotels almost every week.

"You must remember that it was the time when the first hunger striker died in the Maze. The situation now is very different. It is not the same as it was then," he said.

The Scottish Badminton Association announced yesterday that they will not take part in their scheduled match with Northern Ireland in Belfast this weekend.

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Barbarians lose Fitzgerald

RUGBY UNION

Ireland's captain, Ciaran Fitzgerald, is one of several players who have been forced by injury to withdraw from the Barbarians team for their annual Mobbs Memorial match against Epsom at Twickenham this afternoon. But the Barbarians will still be fielding 12 internationals.

Nigel Melville continues his rehabilitation at scrum half, and Ian Metcalfe, full-back, and Mark Bailey, wing, will appear in representative rugby after injury. David Waters, denied a Welsh cap at Jack by two postponements, is paired with the man who eventually kept him out of the Welsh side, Robert Norster.

Loughborough and Durham meet in the final of the UAU

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Ian McKie, the Scotland B lock, and No 8 Mike Kenrick, scorer of 13 tries this season, return to the Sale pack for Saturday's John Player Cup quarter-final against Bath.

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